

WAVES OF CHANGE

PART FOUR



SONIC

SEGA®

THE HEDGEHOG

ISSUE 263



Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

PREVIOUSLY...

IMPERFECT CHAOS!

The Shattered World Crisis is upon us! The planet's crust has shattered apart, and monsters crawl from the cracks every night! Sonic and the Freedom Fighters are on the hunt for the seven Chaos Emeralds and



Gaia Temples. By combining their power, they hope to restore the world to order.



The search has brought Sonic, Amy and Rotor to the undersea city of Meropis. There they met the priestess Coral, who was being tormented by the very

citizens she'd sworn to protect. The result: the city's protective shield fell!

Now Meropis is overrun with ravenous monsters! To make matters worse, Sonic and Rotor are drowning as they fall before the might of the malicious Dark Guardian...



WHO'S WHO



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
WORLD FAMOUS HERO



AMY ROSE
HAMMER-SWINGING HEROINE
& **ROTOR**
THE WALRUS
BRAINY, BRAWNY HERO



CORAL THE BETTA
TEMPLE PRIESTESS
& **RAZOR THE SHARK**
TEMPLE DEFENDER



???

MEROPIS--CITY
UNDER SIEGE!

WAVES OF CHANGE

Part Four:

DIVINE WATERS

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ROTOR
GREAT SWIMMER--
BUT STILL
DROWNING!

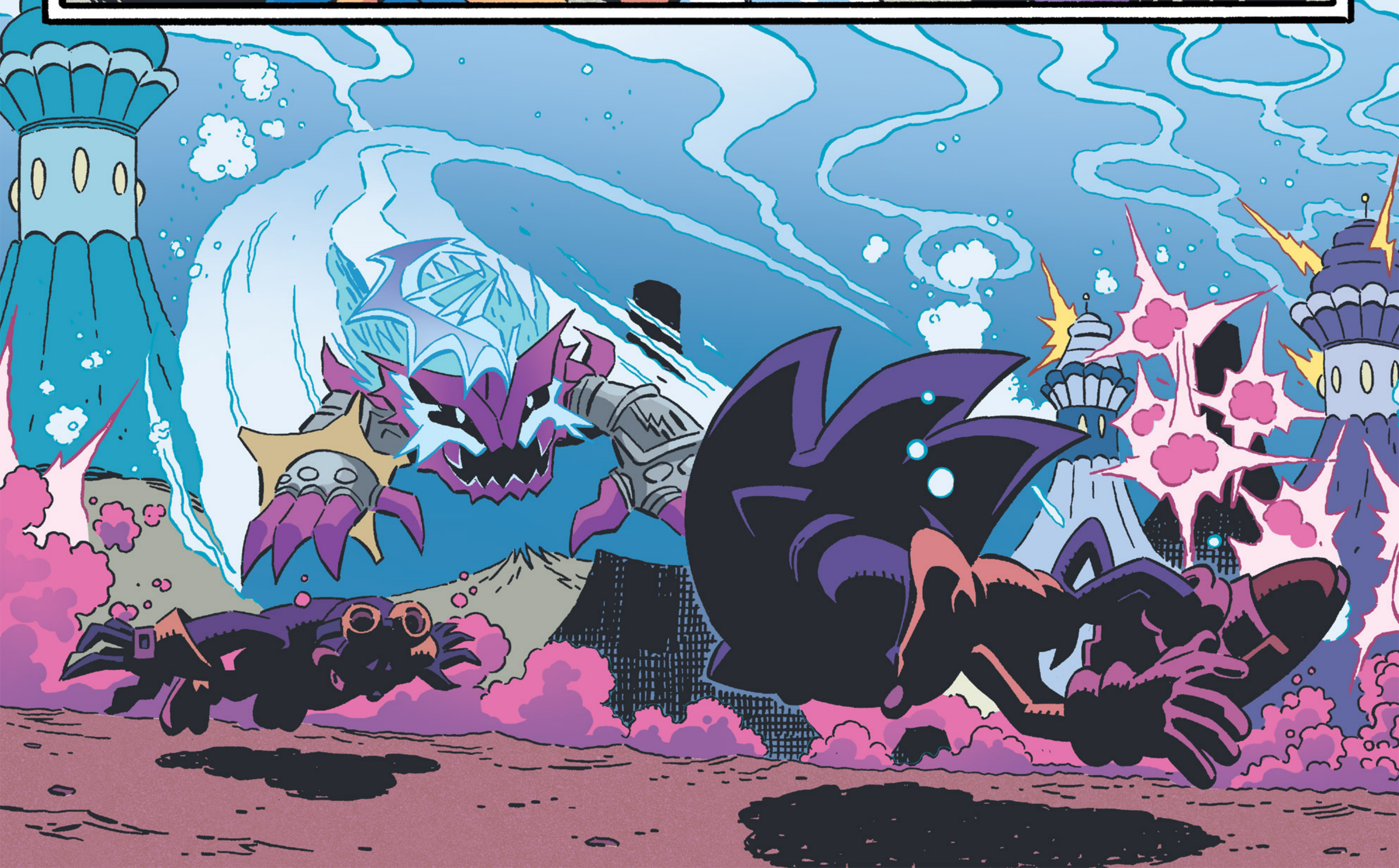
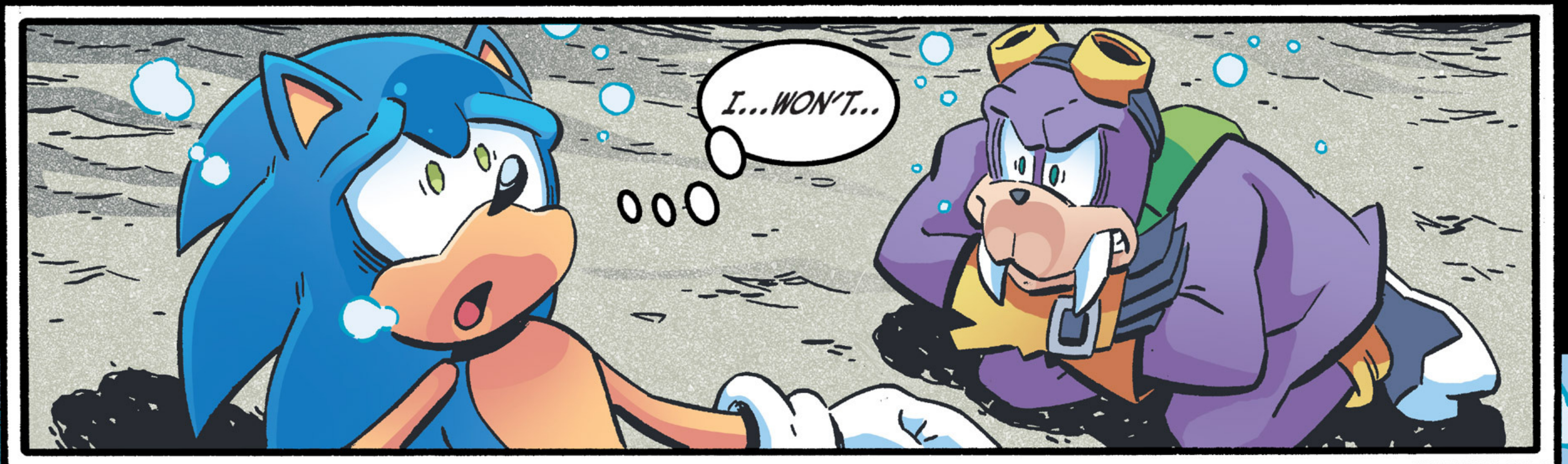
**DARK
GUARDIAN**
COMMANDER
OF MONSTERS

RUNNING
--OUT OF--
AIR!

BUTT
--GETTING--
KICKED!

I'M
--LOSING--
IT!!!

SONIC
FAST ON LAND--
HOPELESS
UNDERWATER



MEANWHILE, IN THE
NEARBY EUSEBES
SHRINE...

RAZOR! THE AIR
CHARMS SONIC AND
ROTOR TOOK MIGHT
HAVE RUN OUT BY
NOW!

PEARLY
PRIESTESS IN
TRAINING

CRUSHER
RAZOR'S CHAO
BUDDY

AMY ROSE
WARRIOR
WOMAN

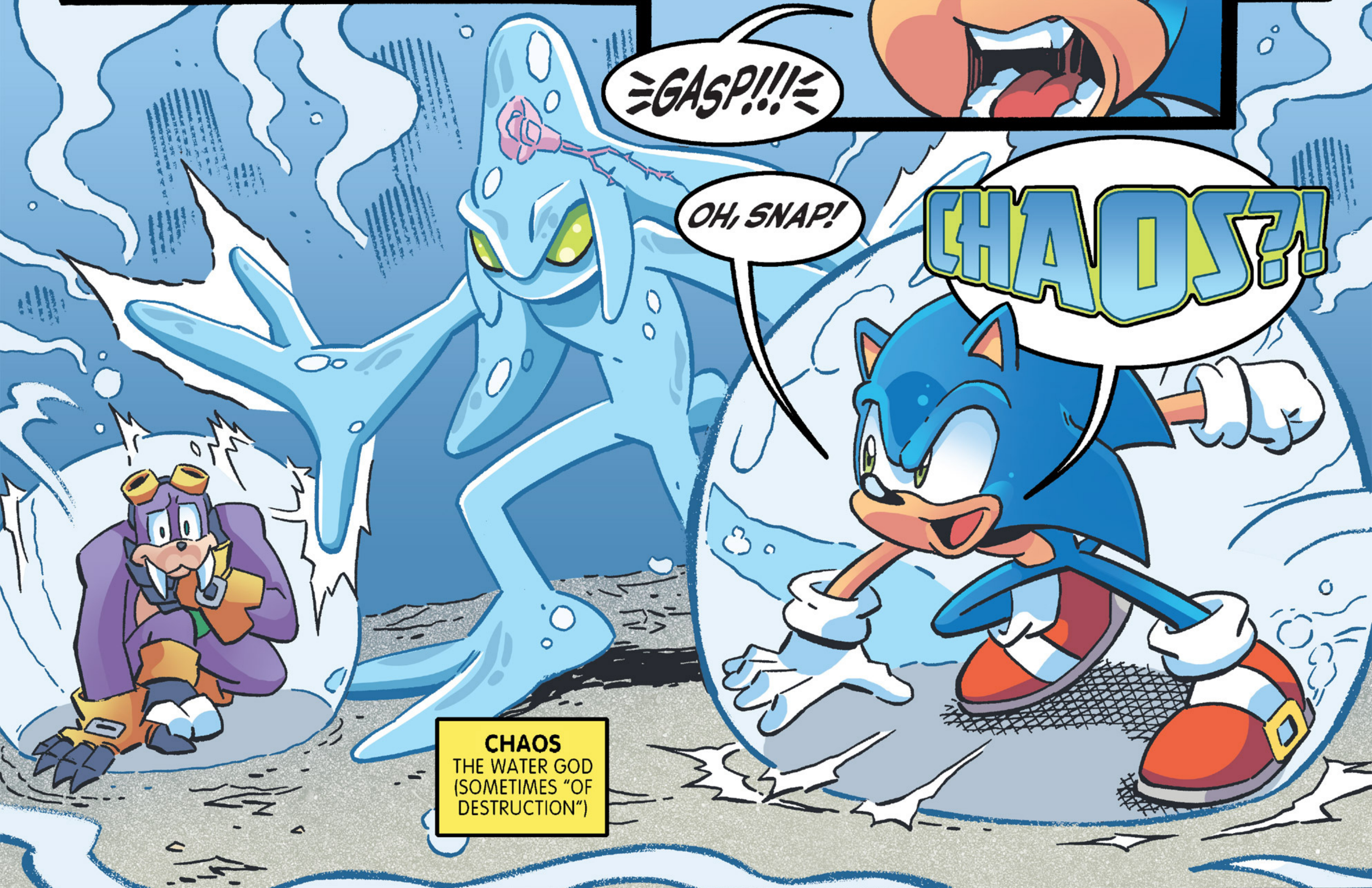
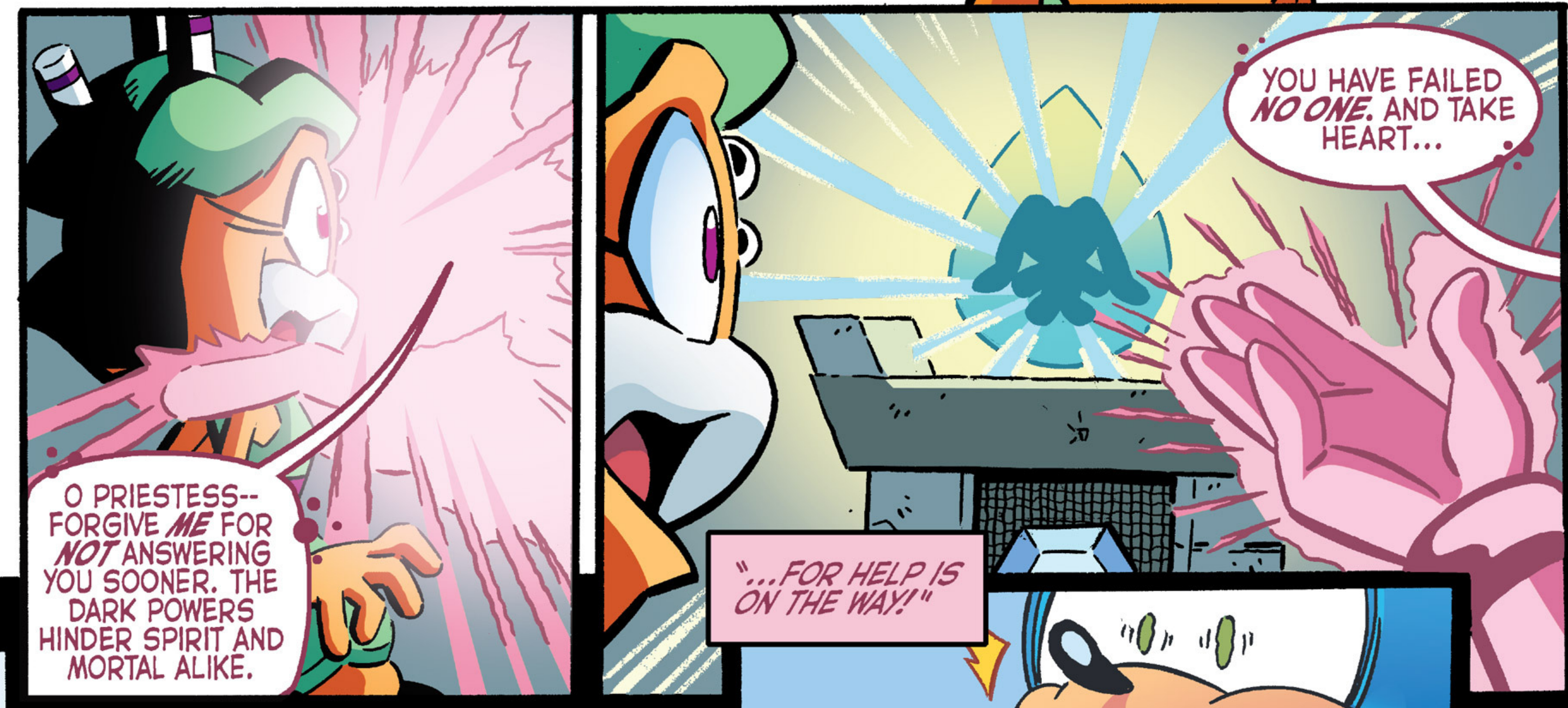
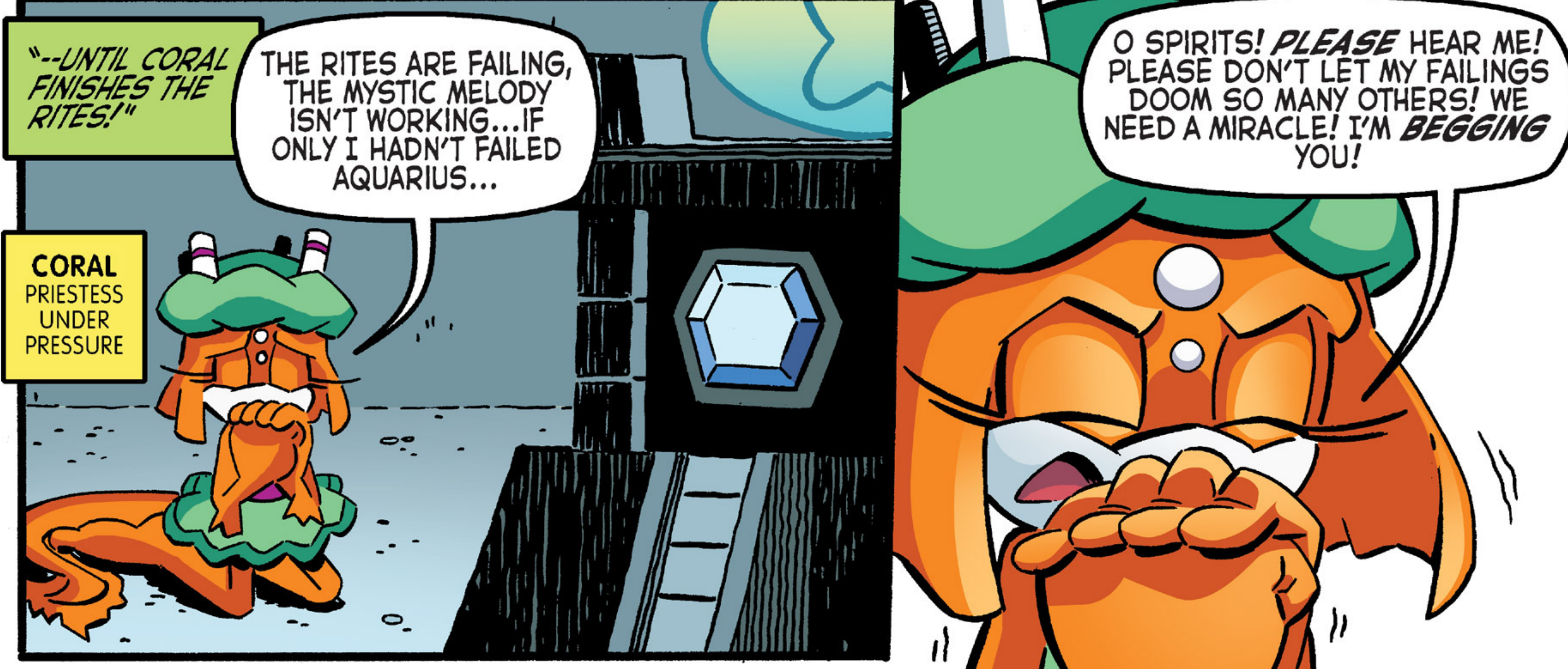
KINDA
GOT MY HANDS
FULL HERE,
SQUIRT!

RAZOR
CORAL'S SWORN
PROTECTOR

RAZOR--SONIC *NEEDS*
ME! IF I TAKE AN AIR
CH--!

GUARD PEARLY
AND THE CHAO!
I'LL COVER THE
TEMPLE! WE
HAVE TO
HOLD OUT--

MORE
ARE
COMING
THROUGH
THE
CEILING!





WOO-HOO!
GO GET 'EM!

GIVE 'EM
A *PERFECT*
BEAT-DOWN!

RRRRRRARCH!

FOOSH!



HE JUST HIT THAT
MONSTER *WITH THE*
OCEAN!

OH! OH! THAT'S WHY
THE OCEANS DIDN'T DRAIN
WHEN THE WORLD BROKE
APART! CHAOS IS CON-
TROLLING IT ALL!

ROTOR?
BUDDY?
GEEK-OUT
LATER!
SAVE CITY
NOW!

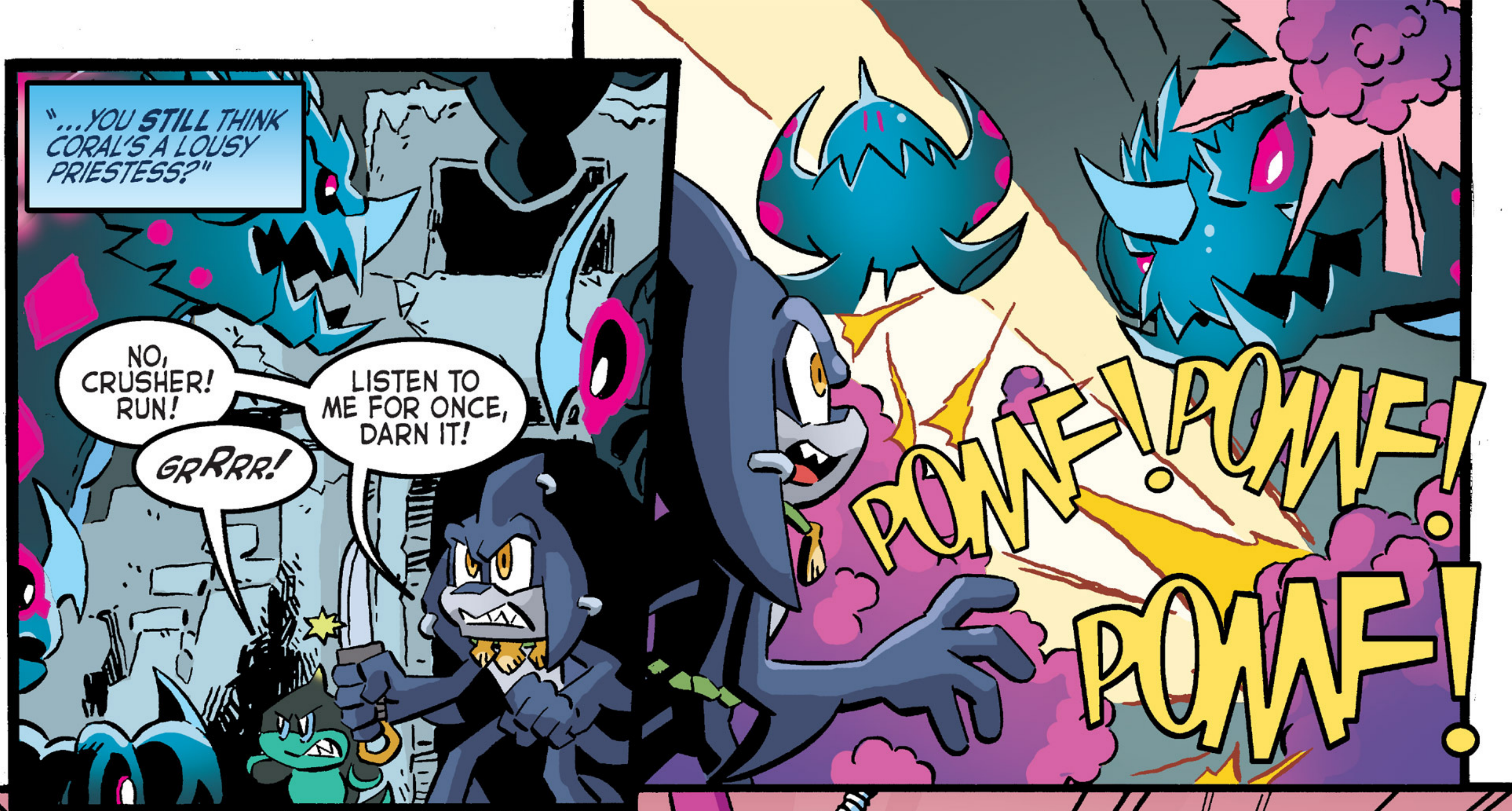
**STRIKER
THE MANTIS
SHRIMP**
CAPTAIN
OF THE CITY
GUARD

TH-THAT'S... CHAOS! THE LIVING
WAVE! THE GUARDIAN OF CHAO!
YOU KNOW CHAOS?!

OH,
SURE. I
HELPED
HIM WITH
A THING
ONCE.

I GUESS
CORAL USED
HER CONNec-
TIONS TO BRING
HIM IN. SO TELL
ME, CAP'N...





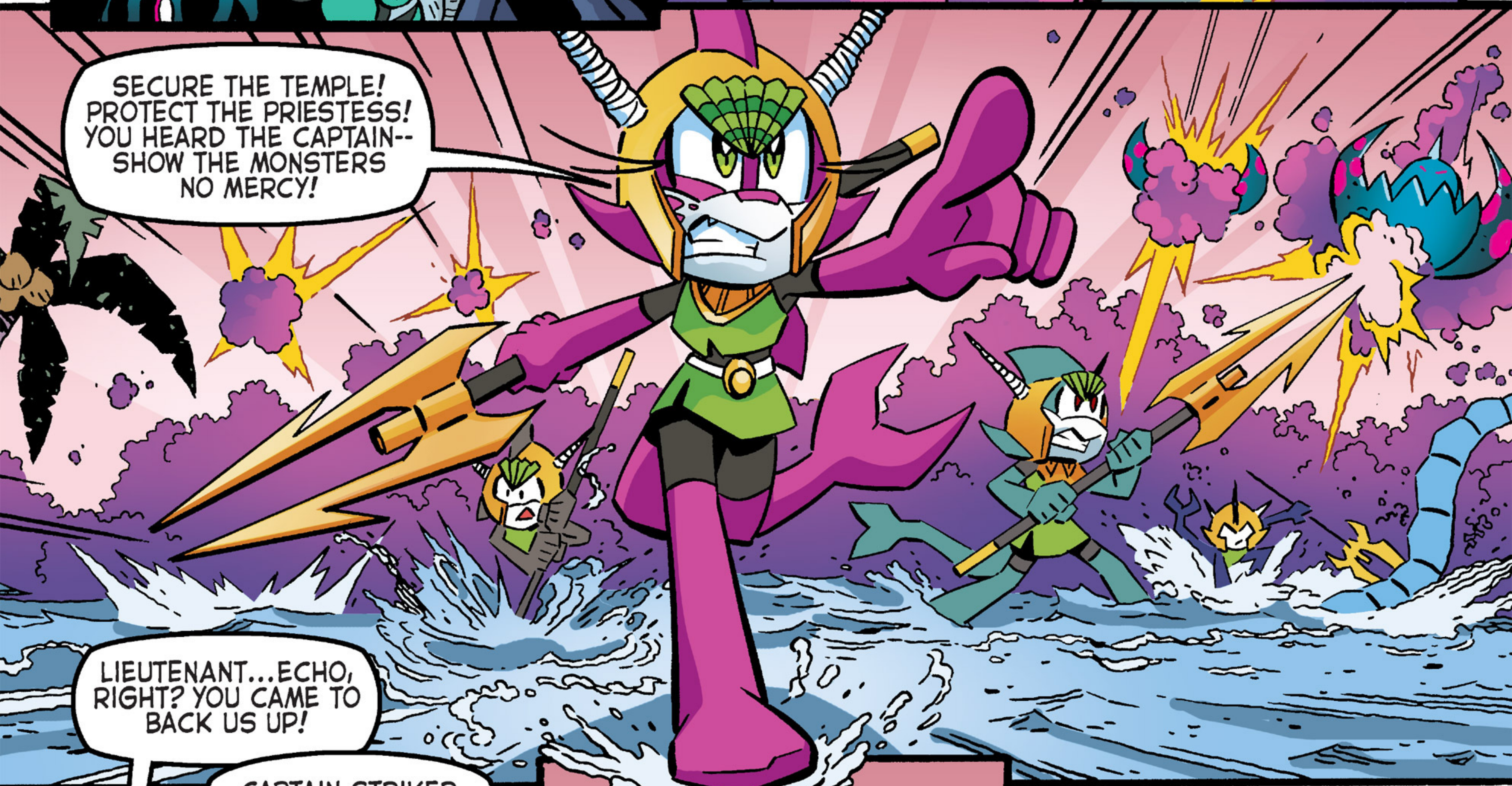
"...YOU STILL THINK CORAL'S A LOUSY PRIESTESS?"

NO, CRUSHER! RUN!

LISTEN TO ME FOR ONCE, DARN IT!

GRRRR!

POW! POW! POW!



SECURE THE TEMPLE! PROTECT THE PRIESTESS! YOU HEARD THE CAPTAIN-- SHOW THE MONSTERS NO MERCY!

LIEUTENANT...ECHO, RIGHT? YOU CAME TO BACK US UP!

CAPTAIN STRIKER SENT US. IT...WOULD HAVE BEEN WRONG FOR US TO LEAVE THE SHRINE TO FEND FOR ITSELF.

WITH YOU HERE, I CAN GO TO SONIC AND--!

YOU'D BE OVERWHELMED BEFORE YOU REACHED THE CITY! I CAN'T SPARE YOU AN ESCORT!

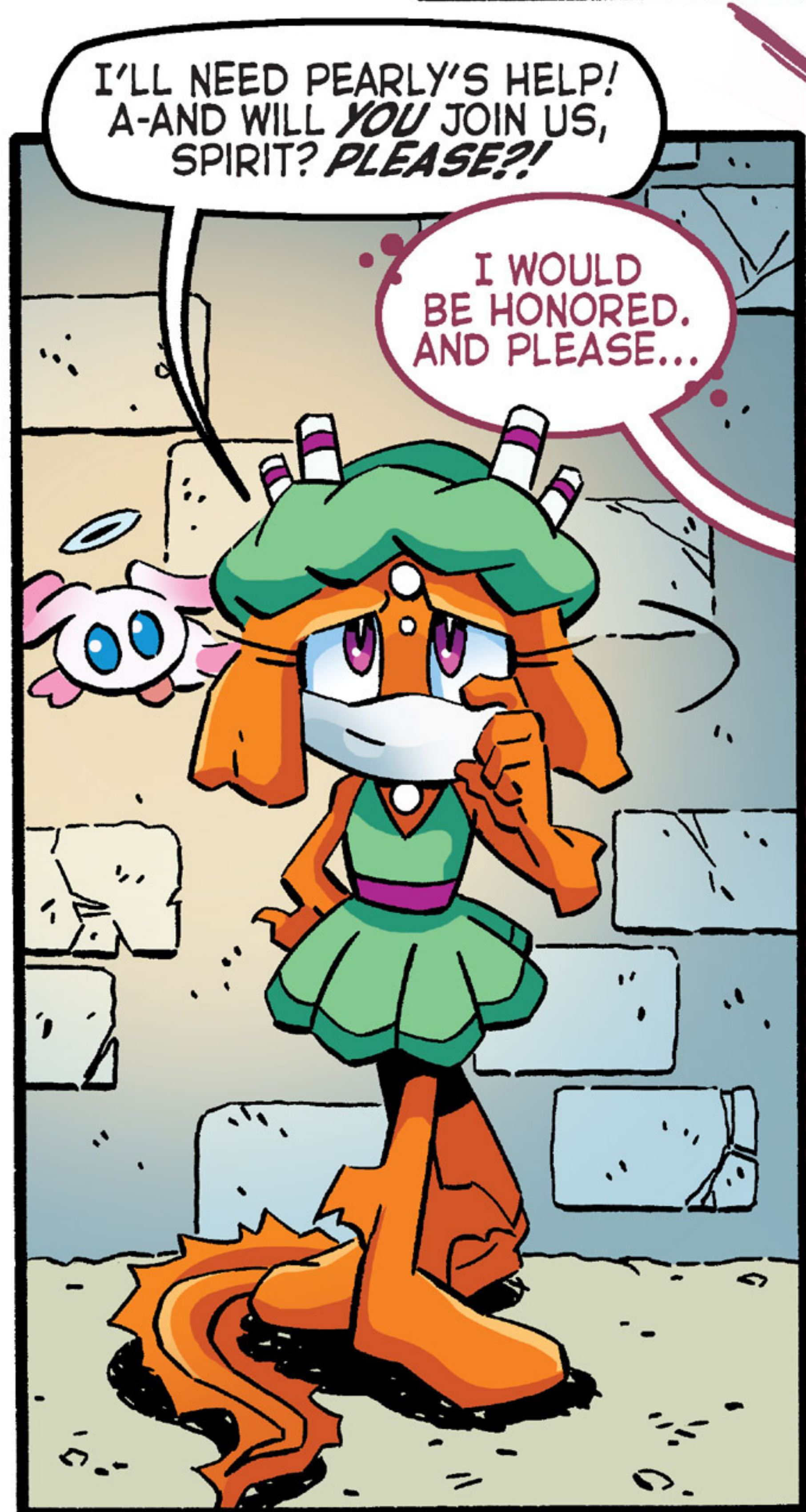
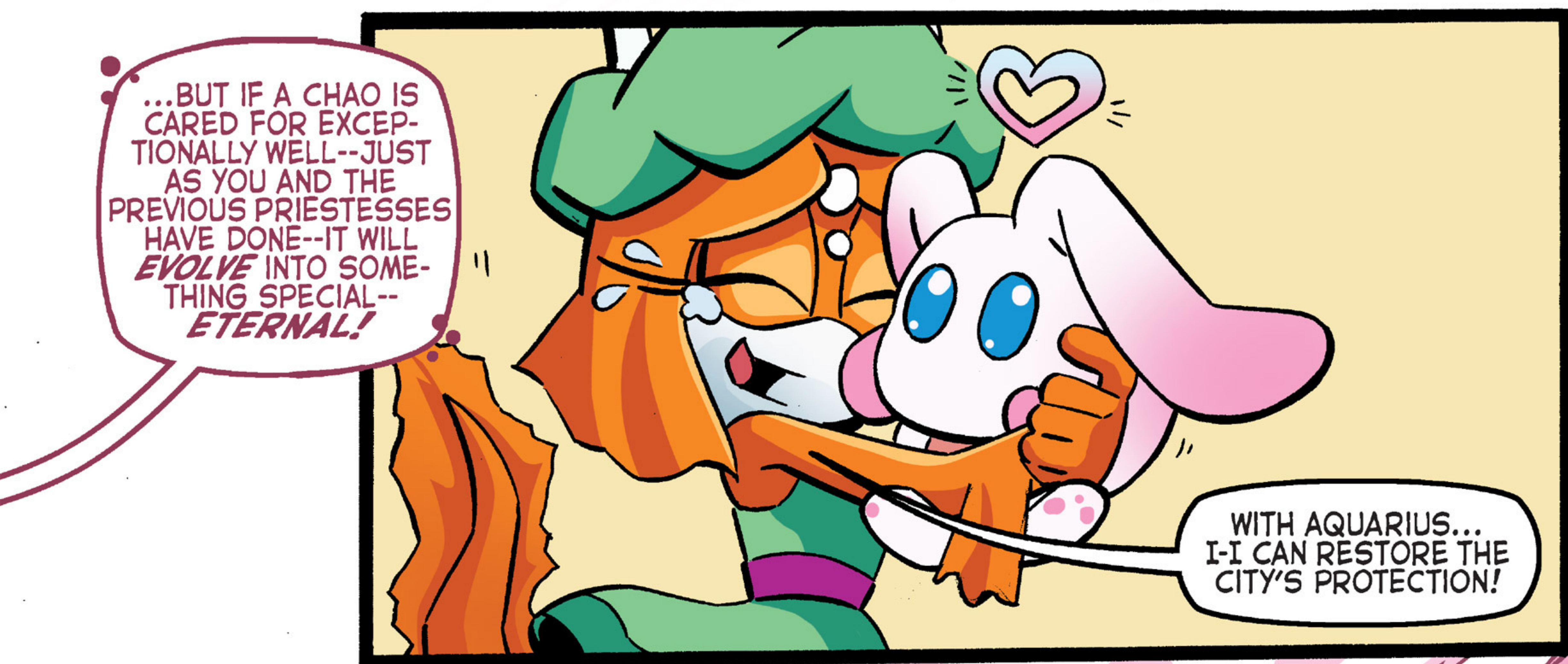
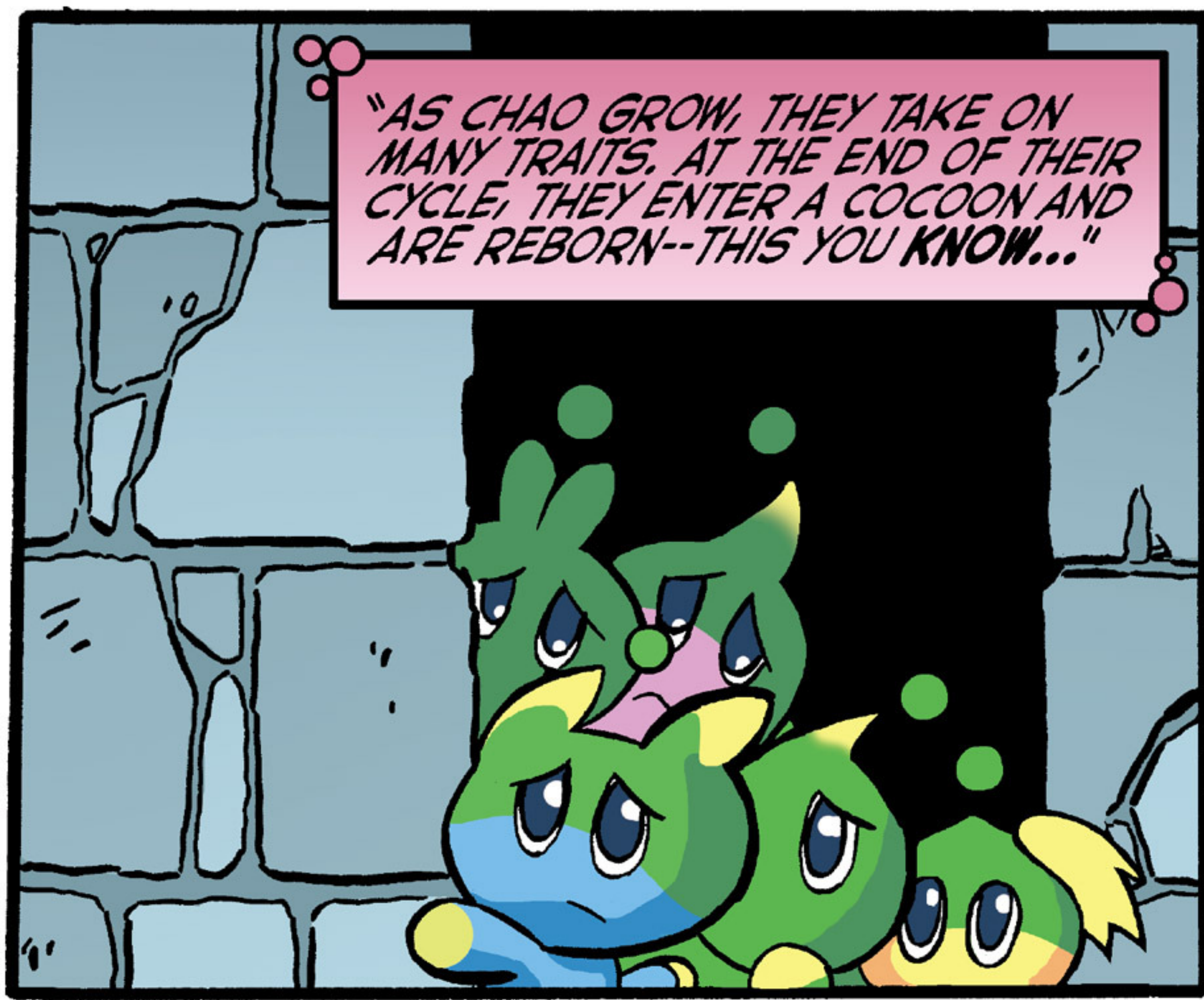
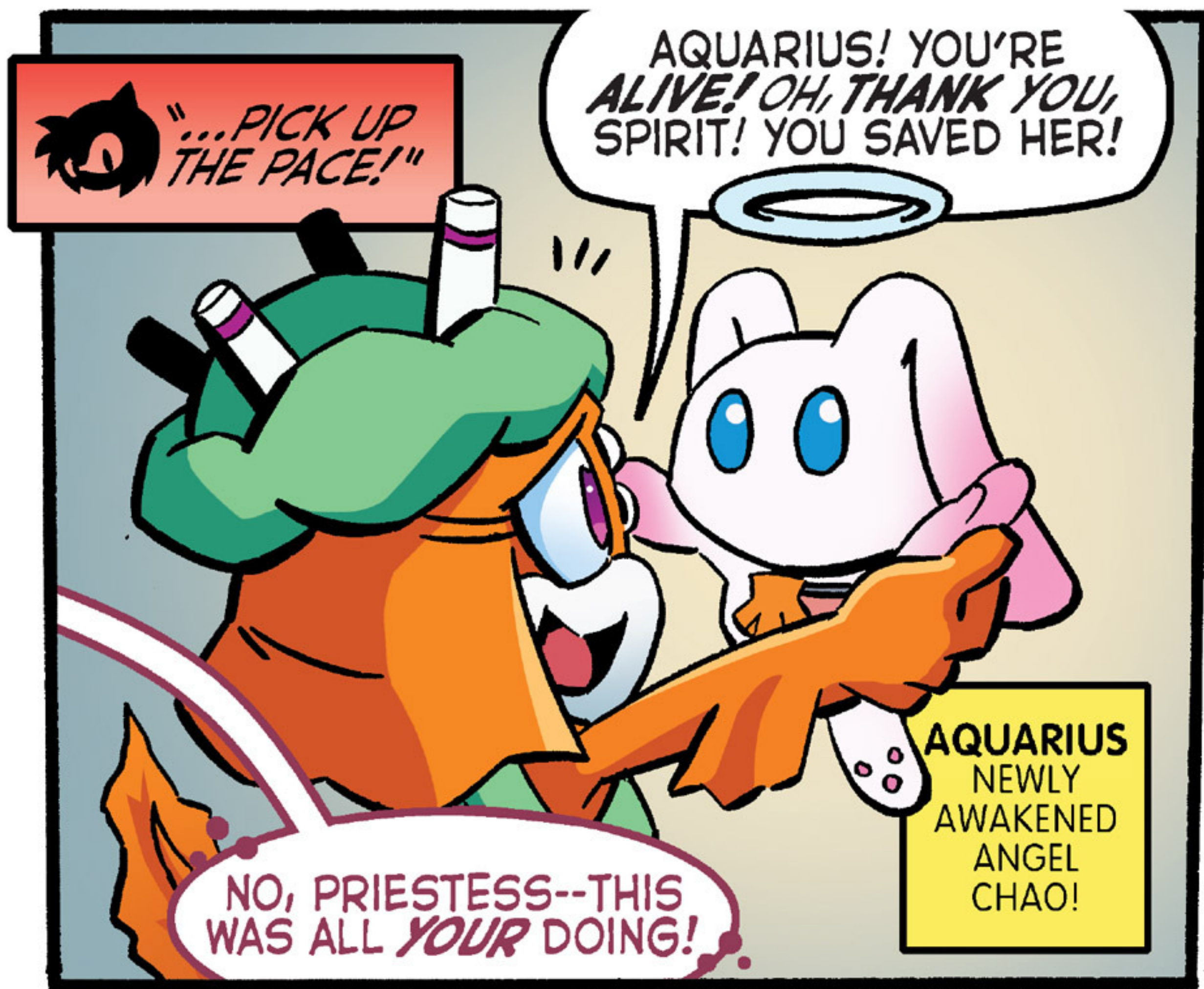
SHE'S RIGHT...I'M NEEDED HERE.

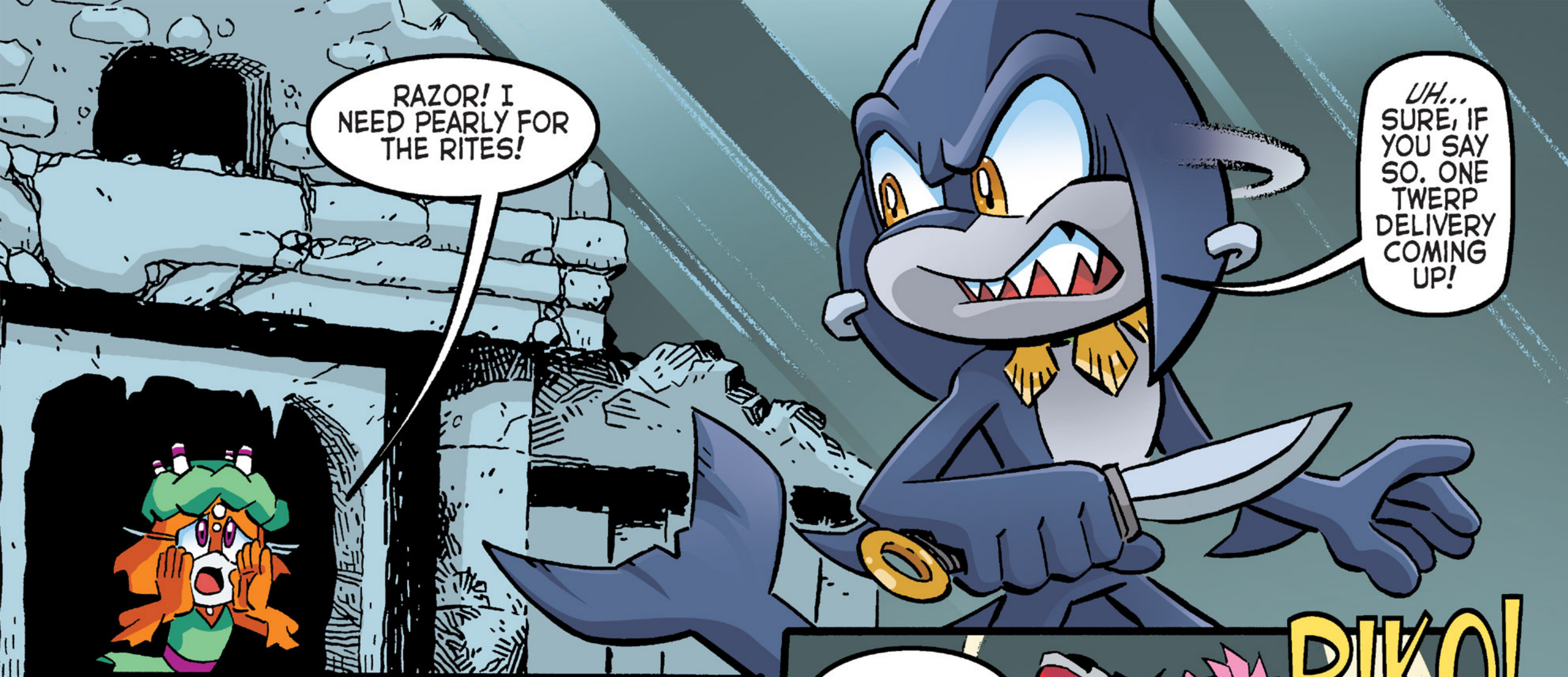
SONIC WILL FIND A WAY--HE ALWAYS DOES.



PIKO!

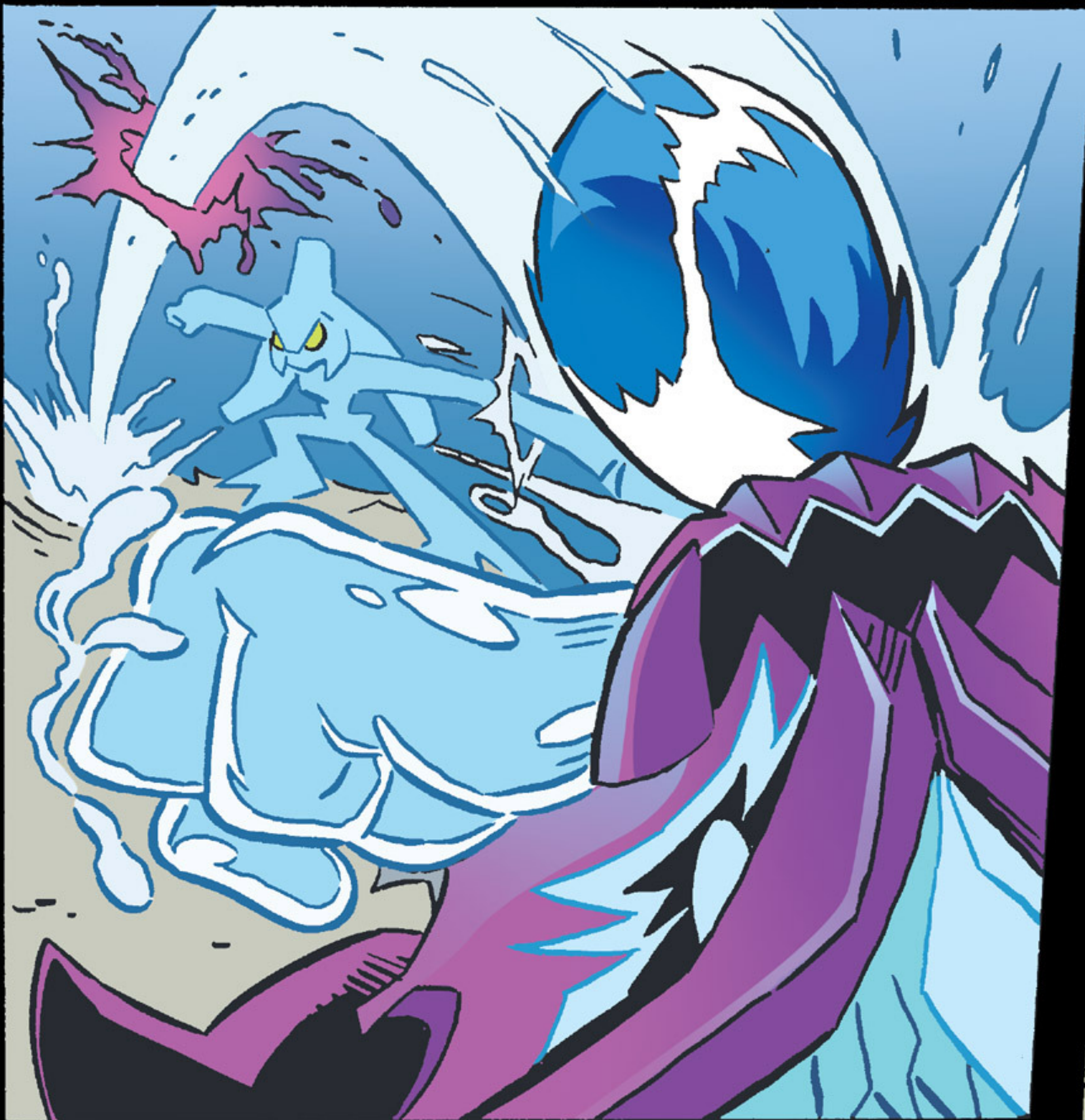
CORAL, WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING IN THERE...





RAZOR! I
NEED PEARLY FOR
THE RITES!

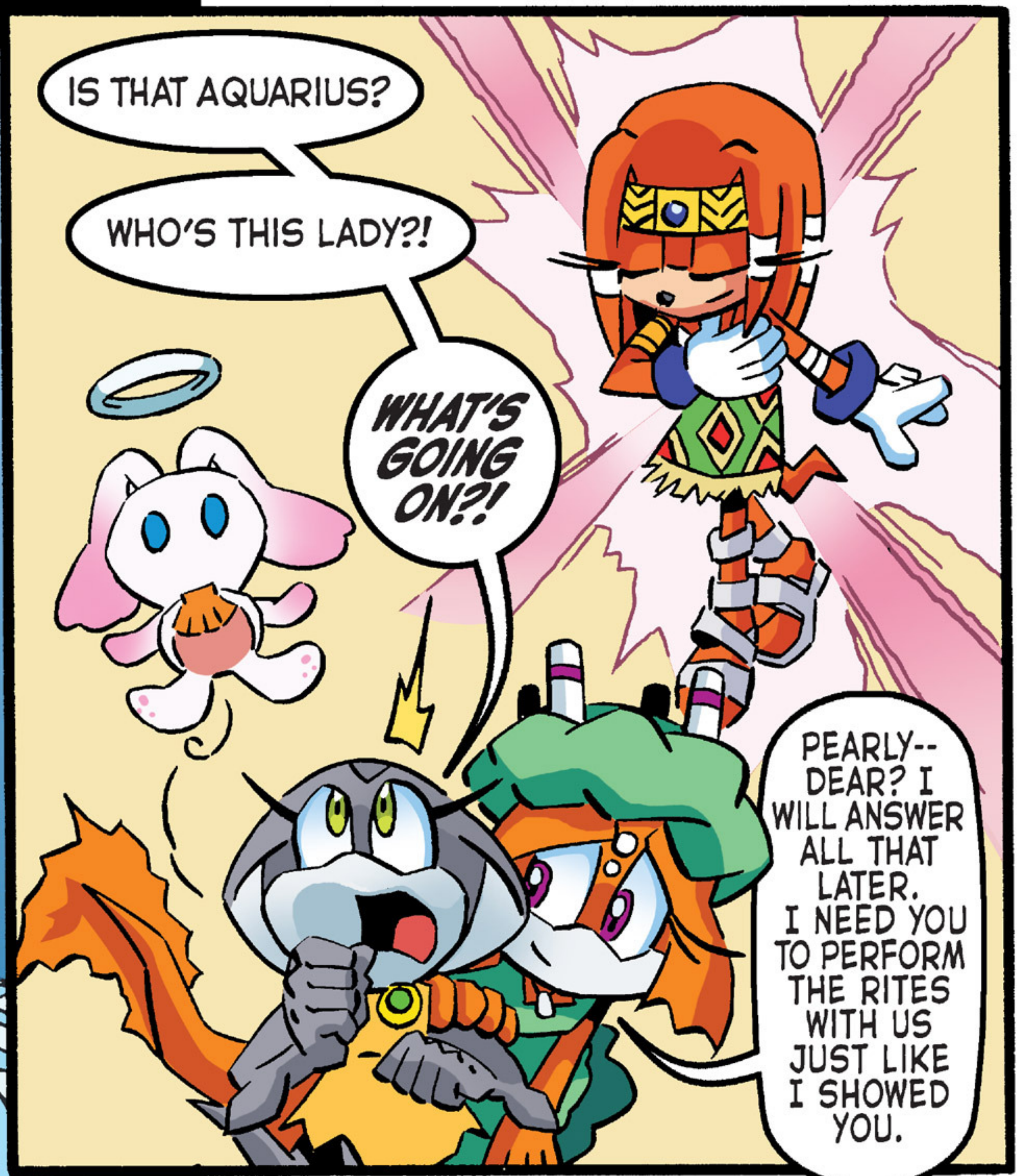
UH...
SURE, IF
YOU SAY
SO. ONE
TWERP
DELIVERY
COMING
UP!



EEK?!

C'MON,
SQUIRT!
KEEP
YOUR
HEAD
DOWN!

PIKO!

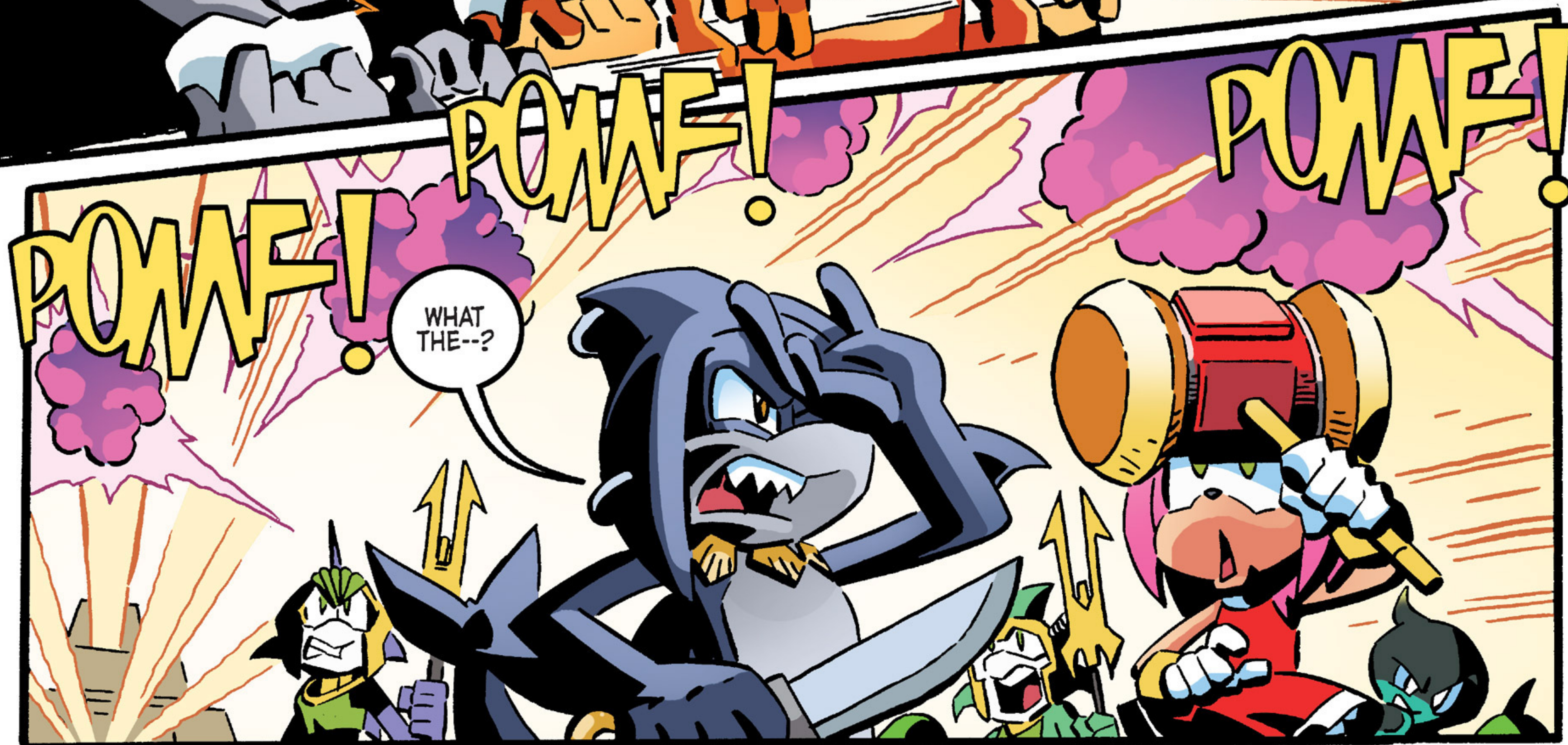
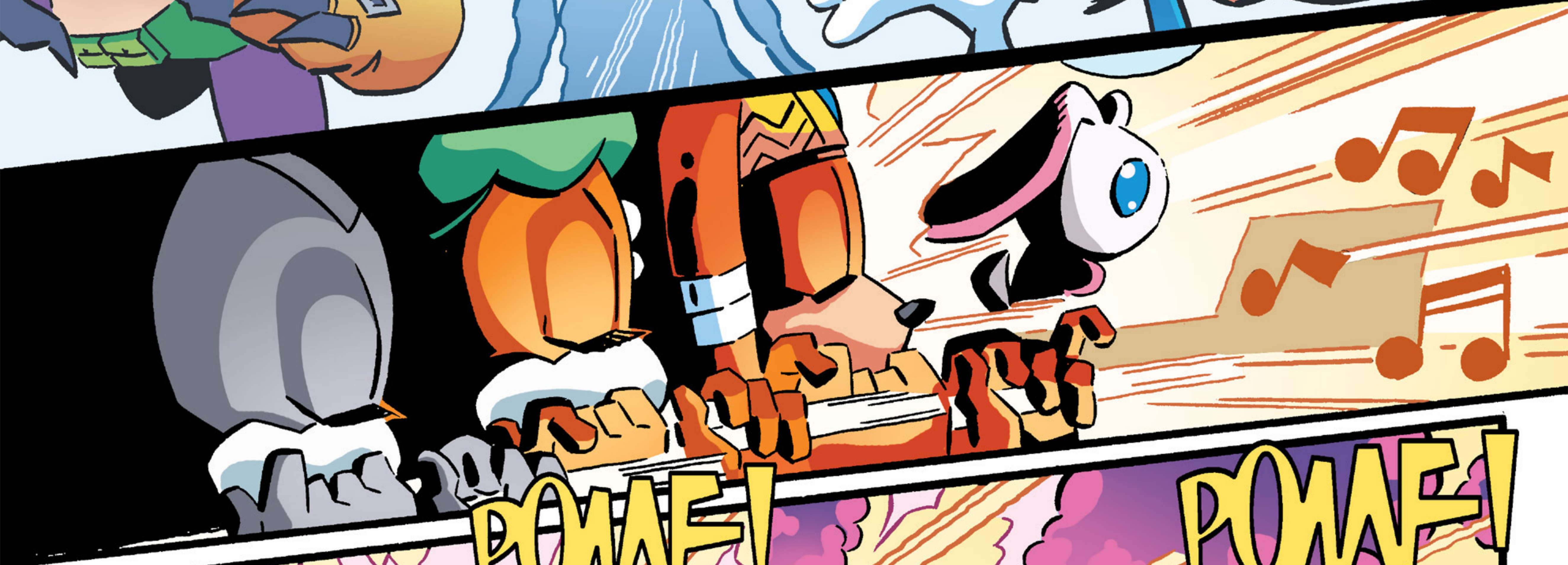
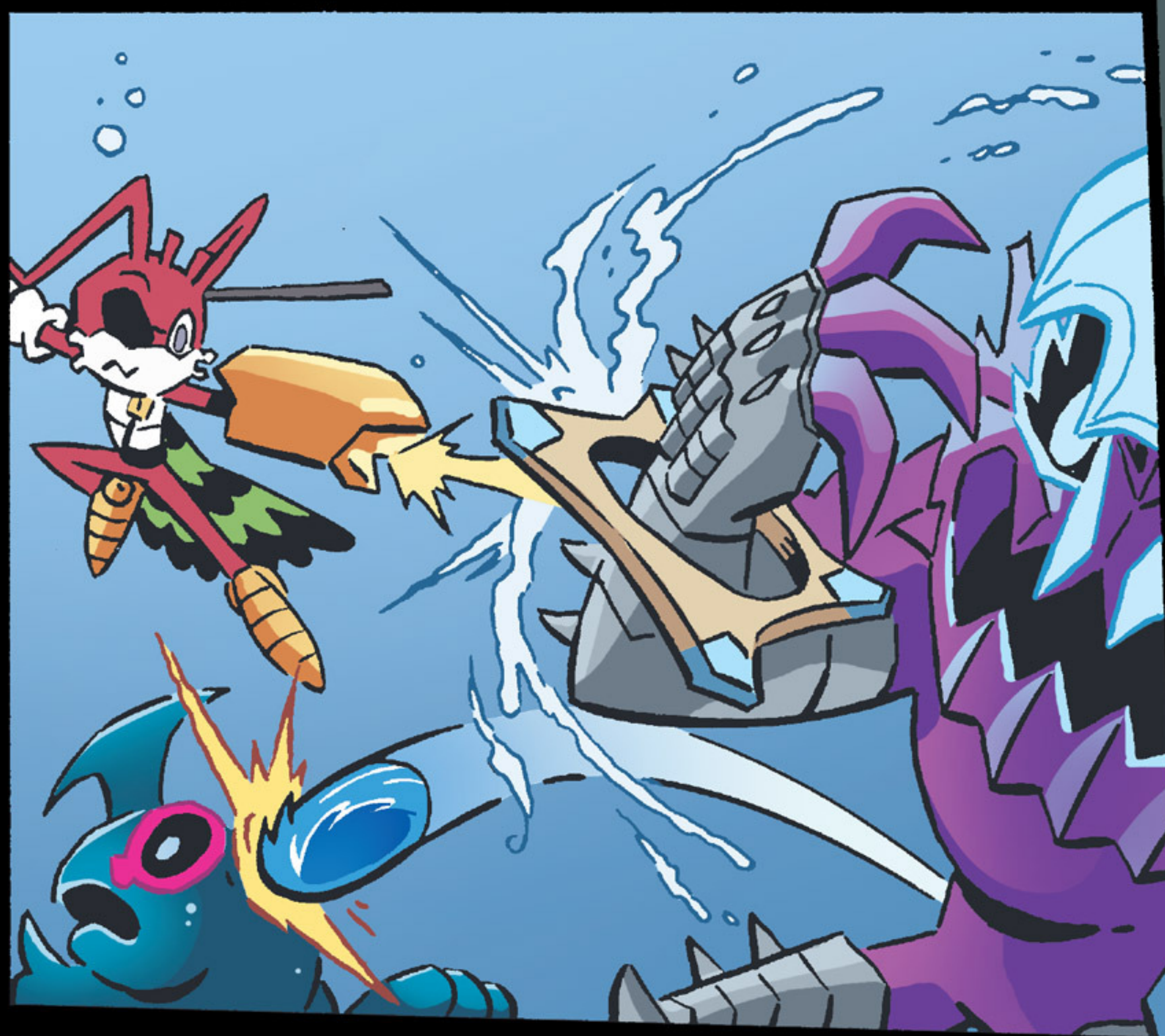


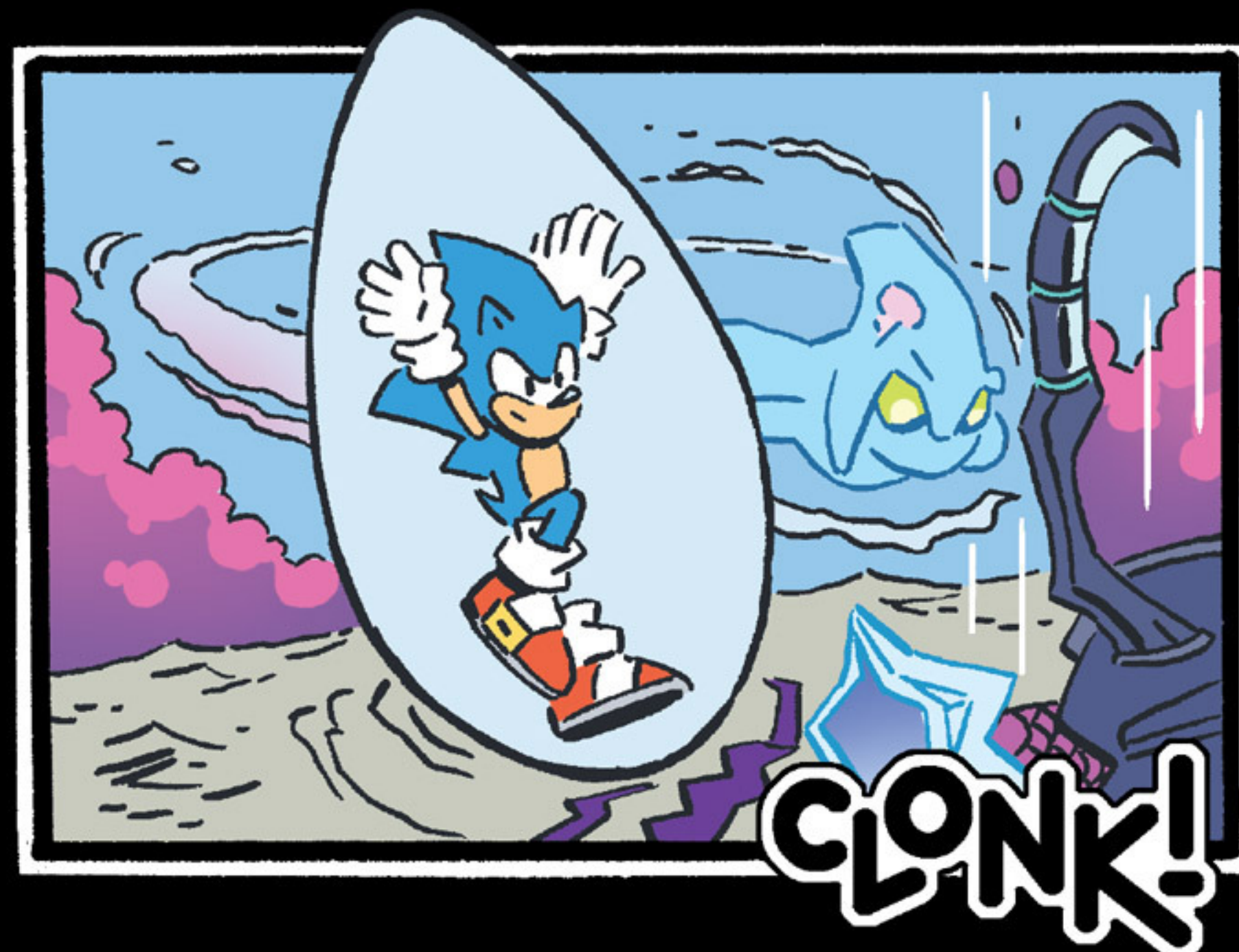
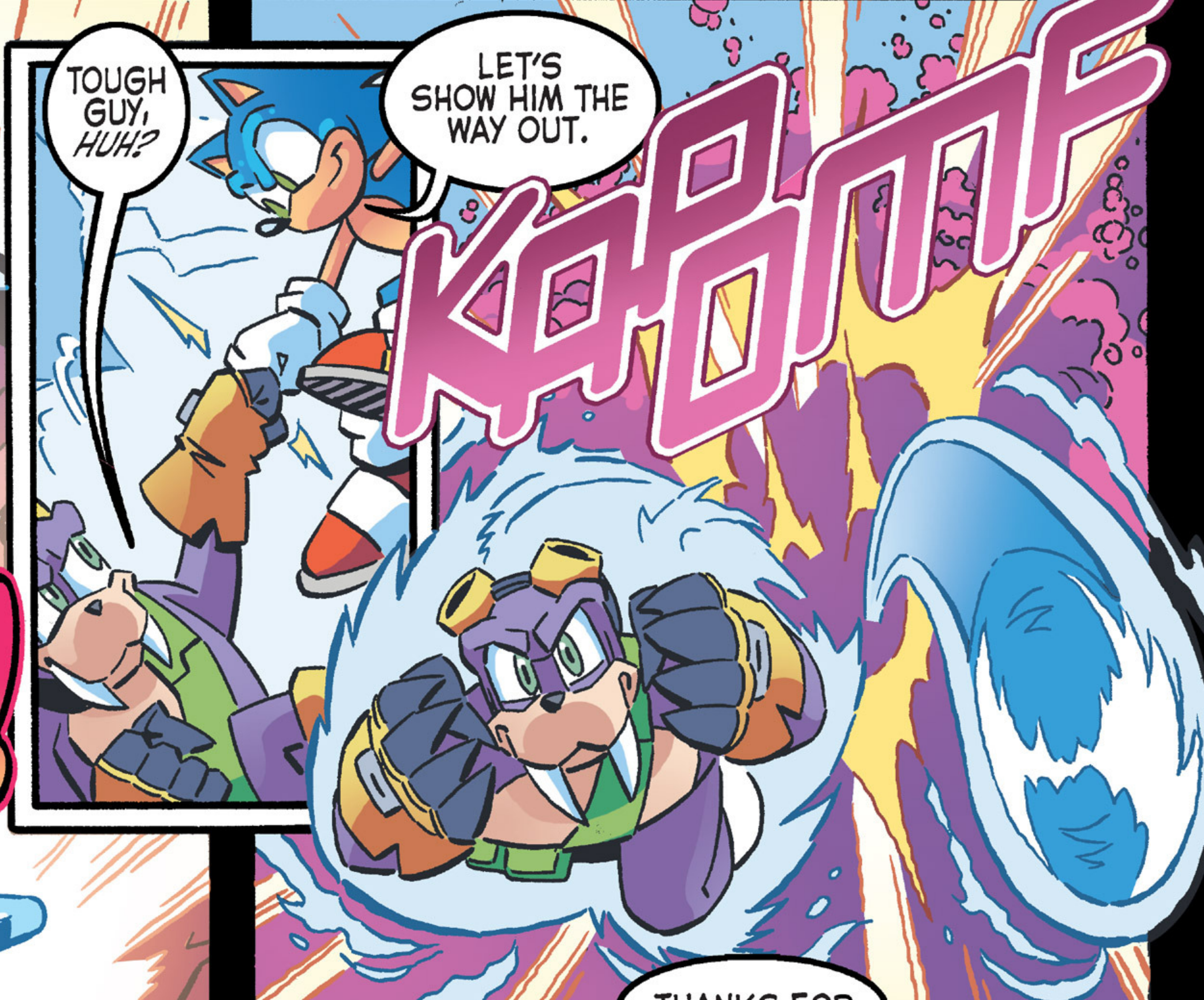
IS THAT AQUARIUS?

WHO'S THIS LADY?!

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!

PEARLY--
DEAR? I
WILL ANSWER
ALL THAT
LATER.
I NEED YOU
TO PERFORM
THE RITES
WITH US
JUST LIKE
I SHOWED
YOU.





AND SO...

...SO THEN I RAN THE CITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL RECORDS AGAINST OUR OWN AND COMPARED WATER SAMPLES.

YOUR SPIKE IN POLLUTION IS COMING FROM THE TWO CRASHED EGG CARRIERS-- **NOT** BECAUSE OF CORAL.

THE OCEAN CURRENTS SENT IT ALL STRAIGHT TO THE CITY.

AND SINCE I MORE-OR-LESS CRASHED THE FIRST ONE...*

* SONIC ADVENTURE --THE GAME.

THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS PROMISE TO HELP YOU WITH THE CLEAN-UP.

IT IS A NOBLE OFFER, BUT WE RESPECTFULLY DECLINE. YOU'VE ALREADY DONE **SO MUCH** FOR US! YOU HELPED DRIVE BACK THE MONSTER HORDE...

...AND SHOWED US THE ERROR IN OUR JUDGMENT. WE WERE GRAVELY MISTAKEN IN PLACING SO MUCH BLAME UPON CORAL.

PRIESTESS, WE HUMBLLY ASK YOU TO RESUME YOUR RIGHTFUL POSITION...

...AND BEG THE PARDON OF THE MIGHTY CHAOS!

THANK YOU, YOUR GRACE. I CHERISH MY DUTIES AND WILL HAPPILY RETURN TO THEM.

AND... *ERM* ...CHAOS SAYS ALL IS FORGIVEN. (I THINK.)

LATER STILL...

...AND I'M SORRY I COULDN'T EXPLAIN EVERYTHING EARLIER. I CAN ONLY MANIFEST NEAR POINTS OF MAGICAL POWER, AND EVEN THEN, WITH THE WORLD IN TURMOIL, IT'S A STRUGGLE.

PLEASE, WHILE I HAVE TIME, LISTEN...

A DARK ENERGY IS POISONING THE WORLD.

IT'S WHAT'S BLOCKING ME, PRODUCING THE MONSTERS, AND TURNING EVERYONE'S HEARTS CRUEL. THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF *DARK GAIA*.

YOU WILL NEED THE HELP OF THE LIGHT GAIA TO DRIVE IT BACK. KNUCKLES IS OUT LOOKING FOR HIM RIGHT NOW.*

WOW... YOU MANAGED TO GET KNUX TO COME DOWN OFF HIS HUNK OF ROCK *WILLINGLY?* *

SERIOUSLY, THO'--ANY IDEA WHERE WE CAN FIND THE TEMPLES?

*"THE GREAT CHAOS CAPER"
--IN SONIC UNIVERSE RIGHT NOW!

SADLY, NO. BUT IF YOU REACH OUT TO ME WITH THE MYSTIC MELODY, YOU MAY--

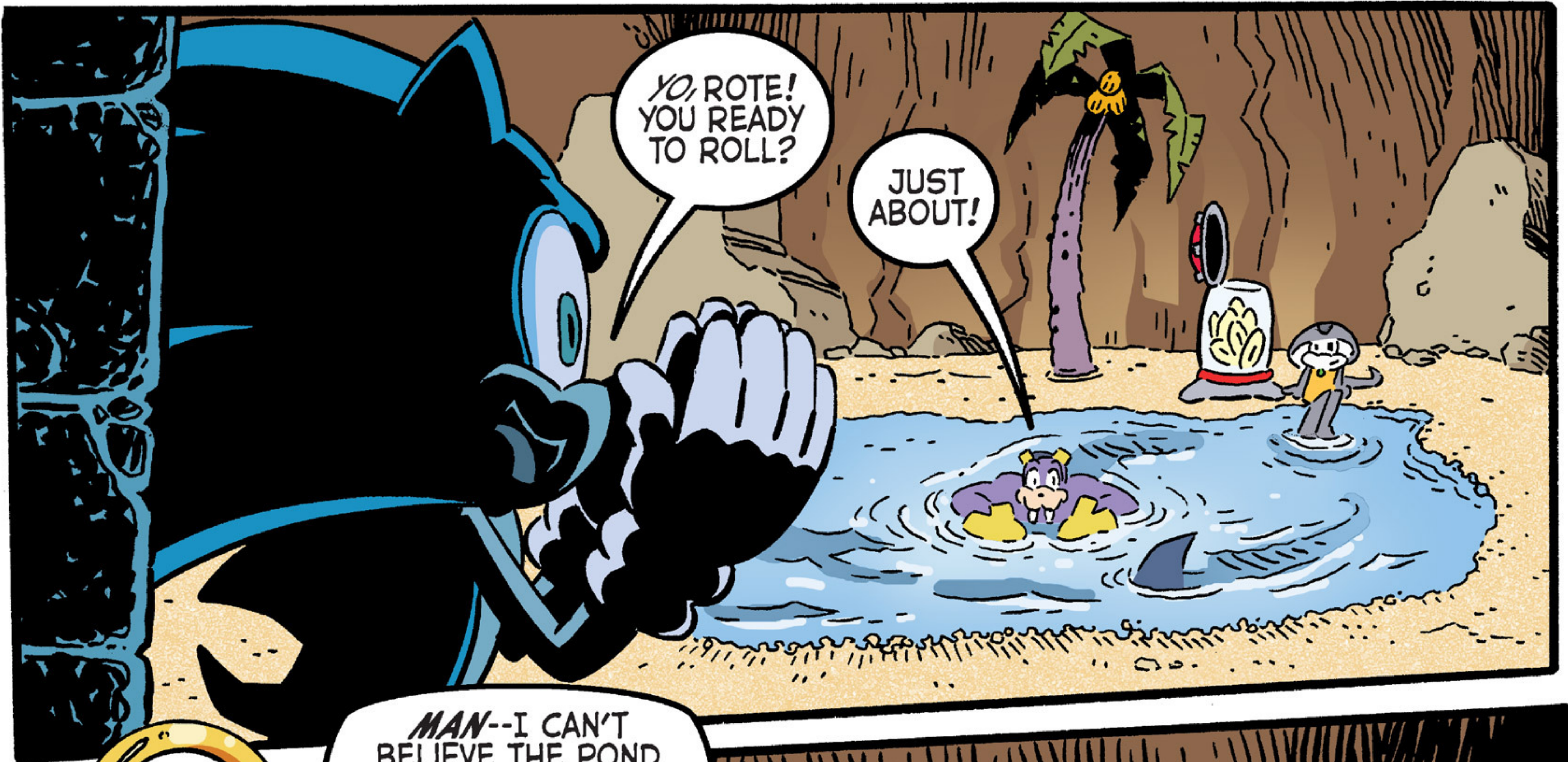
JUST LIKE THAT-- SHE'S GONE AGAIN. I NEVER GOT TO THANK HER...

I'M SURE SHE KNOWS.

WHEN SHE GETS HER STRENGTH BACK, YOU'LL SEE HER AGAIN.

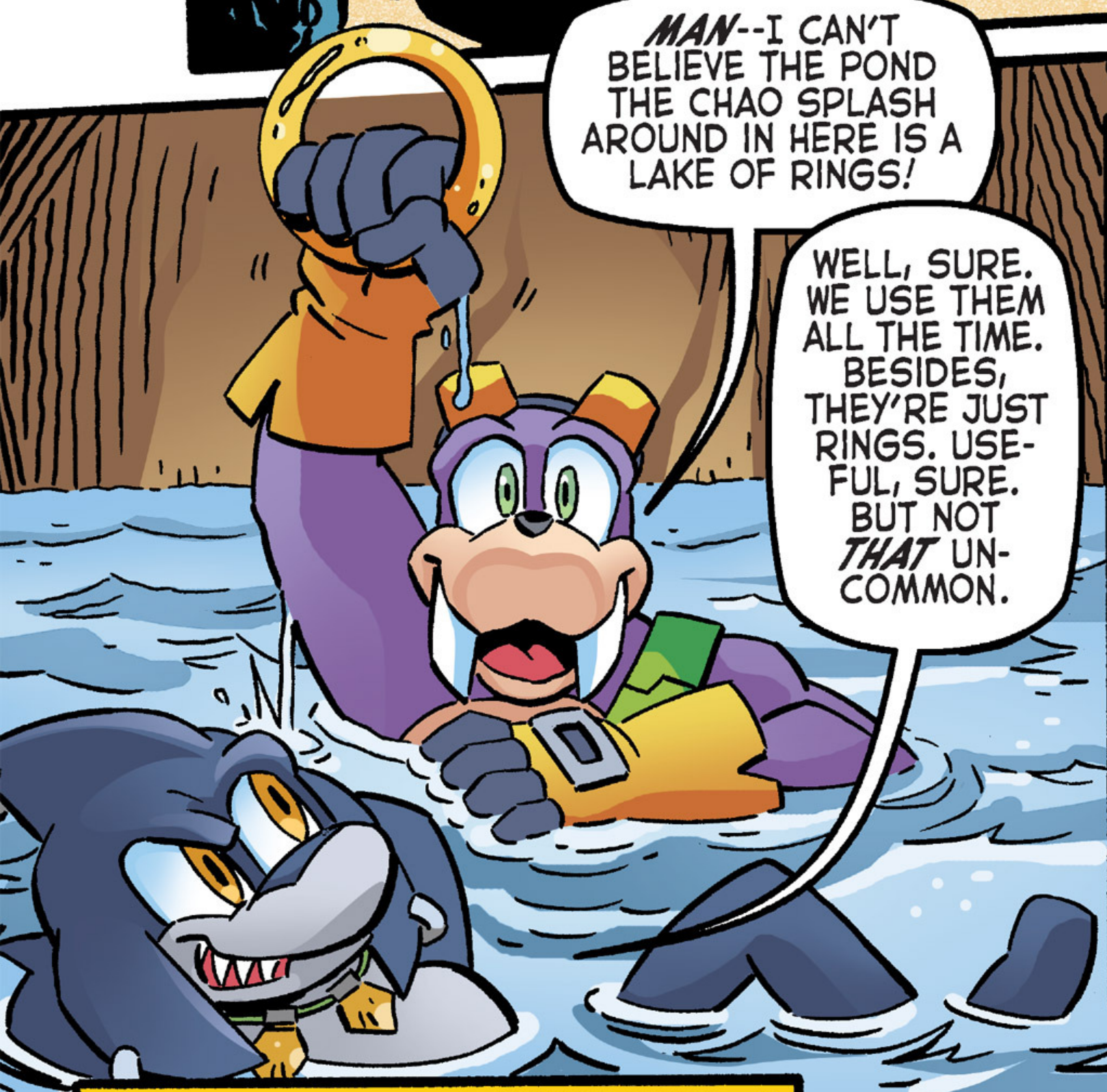
YOU'LL PROBABLY SEE HER BEFORE ME. I'VE *NEVER* SEEN ANYONE LEARN THE MYSTIC MELODY SO FAST!

AW! WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M GIFTED!



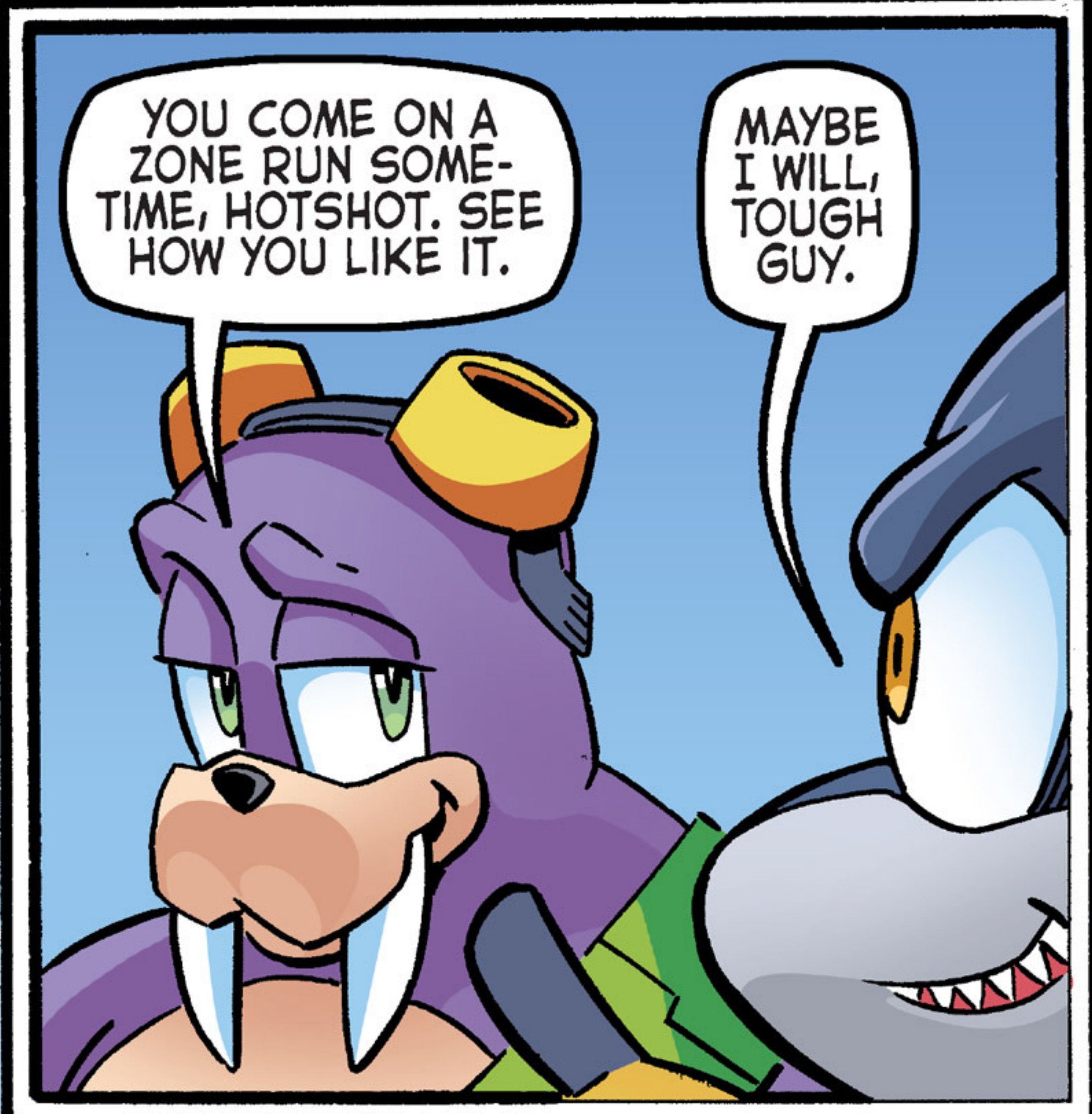
YO, ROTE!
YOU READY
TO ROLL?

JUST
ABOUT!



MAN--I CAN'T
BELIEVE THE POND
THE CHAO SPLASH
AROUND IN HERE IS A
LAKE OF RINGS!

WELL, SURE.
WE USE THEM
ALL THE TIME.
BESIDES,
THEY'RE JUST
RINGS. USE-
FUL, SURE.
BUT NOT
THAT UN-
COMMON.



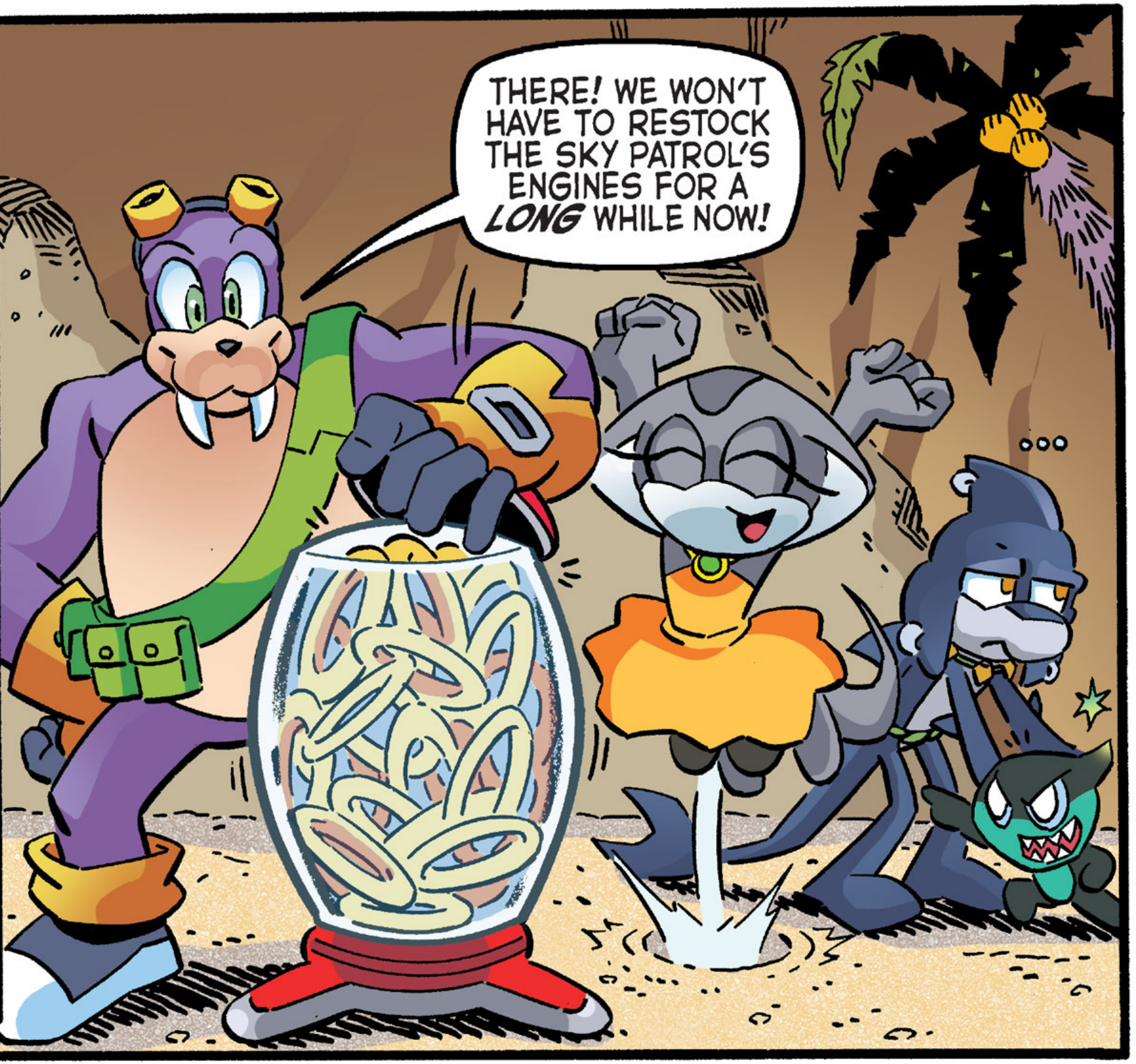
YOU COME ON A
ZONE RUN SOME-
TIME, HOTSHOT. SEE
HOW YOU LIKE IT.

MAYBE
I WILL,
TOUGH
GUY.



N-NO, CRUSHER! *NO!*
TH-THOSE ARE F-FOR
OUR FRIENDS!

BAH!



THERE! WE WON'T
HAVE TO RESTOCK
THE SKY PATROL'S
ENGINES FOR A
LONG WHILE NOW!



SURE YOU CAN SPARE THESE?

WE'RE SURE. LEAST WE COULD DO. SORRY OUR TEMPLE HERE ISN'T CONNECTED TO THE WHOLE SAVE-THE-PLANET THING.



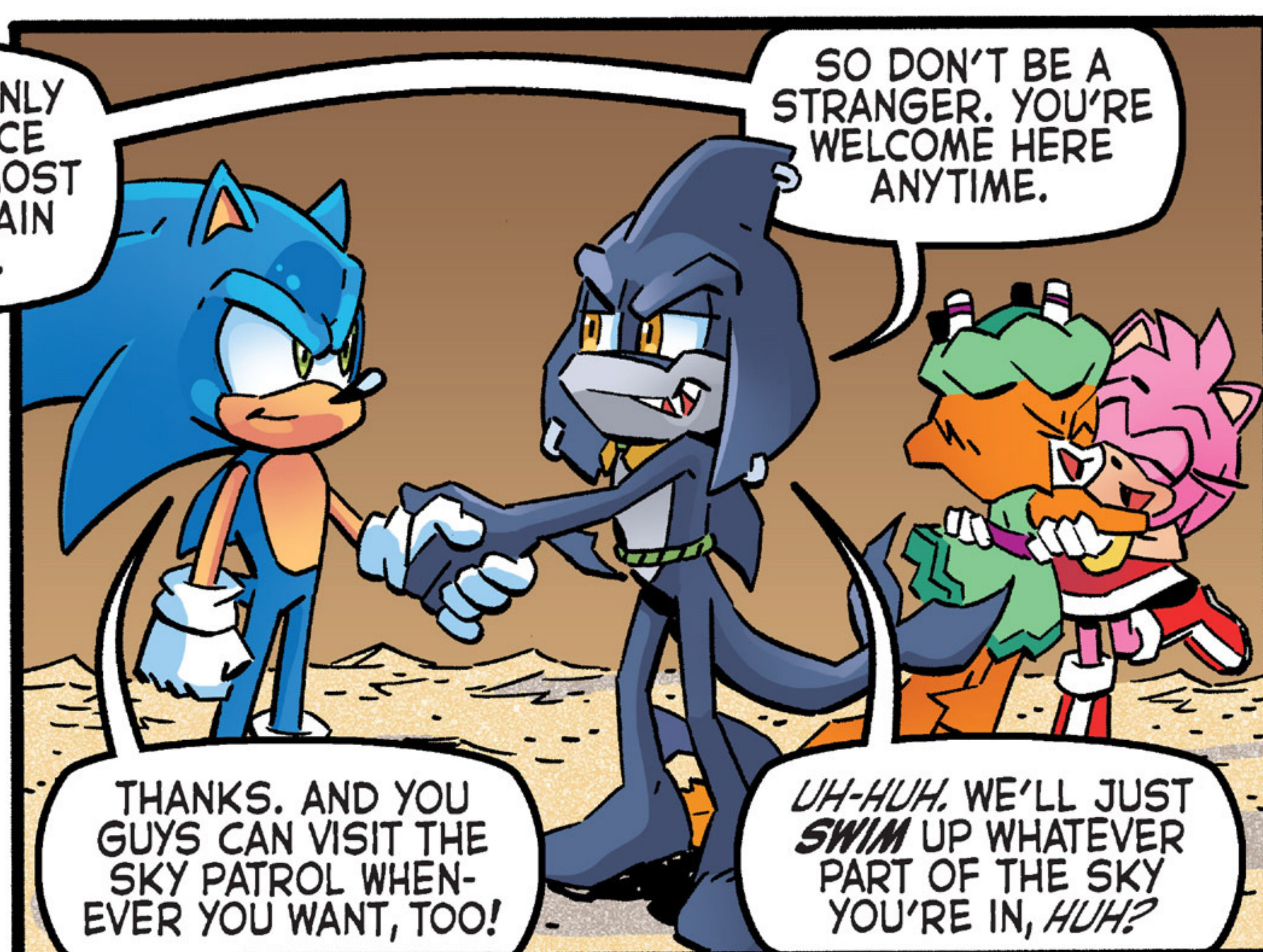
ARE YOU KIDDIN'?

THANKS TO TIKAL, WE'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA OF WHAT'S GOING ON.

CORAL TAUGHT AMY THAT MYSTIC MELODY THING. THAT'S GONNA BE A *HUGE* HELP, NARROWING OUR SEARCH DOWN TO A FEW MILES INSTEAD OF, Y'KNOW, A FEW *CONTINENTS*.

ANNNND I GUESS AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE HELPED OUT A BIT, TOO.

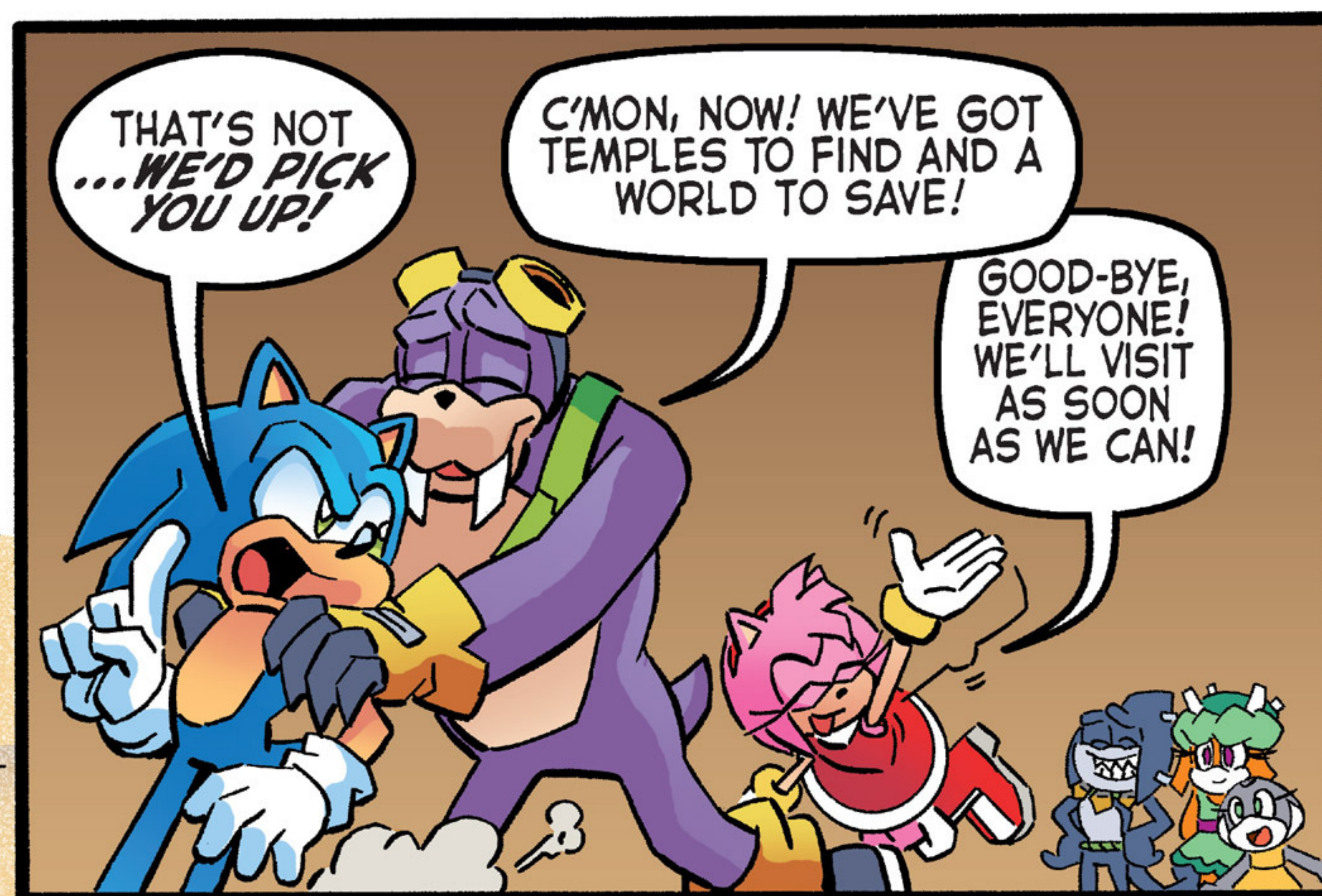
HAHA--YOU CERTAINLY MADE A DIFFERENCE *HERE*. CORAL'S ALMOST HER OLD SELF AGAIN THANKS TO YOU.



SO DON'T BE A STRANGER. YOU'RE WELCOME HERE ANYTIME.

THANKS. AND YOU GUYS CAN VISIT THE SKY PATROL WHENEVER YOU WANT, TOO!

UH-HUH. WE'LL JUST *SWIM* UP WHATEVER PART OF THE SKY YOU'RE IN, *HUH?*



THAT'S NOT ...*WE'D PICK YOU UP!*

C'MON, NOW! WE'VE GOT TEMPLES TO FIND AND A WORLD TO SAVE!

GOOD-BYE, EVERYONE! WE'LL VISIT AS SOON AS WE CAN!

"AND WE'LL FILL
YOU IN ON ALL OUR
ADVENTURES!"

MEANWHILE,
DEEP IN THE
RAINFOREST...

YOU HAVE MADE SO MUCH
PROGRESS, MY FRIEND. SWIFT
AS THE WIND, STRONG AS A
MOUNTAIN, AND NOW STILL AS
AN UNTOUCHED POOL...

...AND YET THERE IS A
FIRE THAT STILL BURNS AT
YOUR CORE. DO YOU KNOW
WHY YOU STILL BURN, MY
FRIEND?

I THINK
SO. ALL MY
TRAINING
HAS GIVEN
ME
FOCUS...

...BUT IT
HASN'T GIVEN ME
A PURPOSE.

I NEED TO *DO*
SOMETHING WITH ALL
THIS POWER.

MIGHTY AND RAY ARE BACK!
BUT WHEN THEY MEET SONIC AGAIN,
WILL IT BE AS FRIENDS--OR AS FOES?
SURPRISES AROUND NEXT TIME IN...

"CONTROL!"

UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON SONIC UNIVERSE,
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER
DIGEST, AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!



CONSEQUENCES

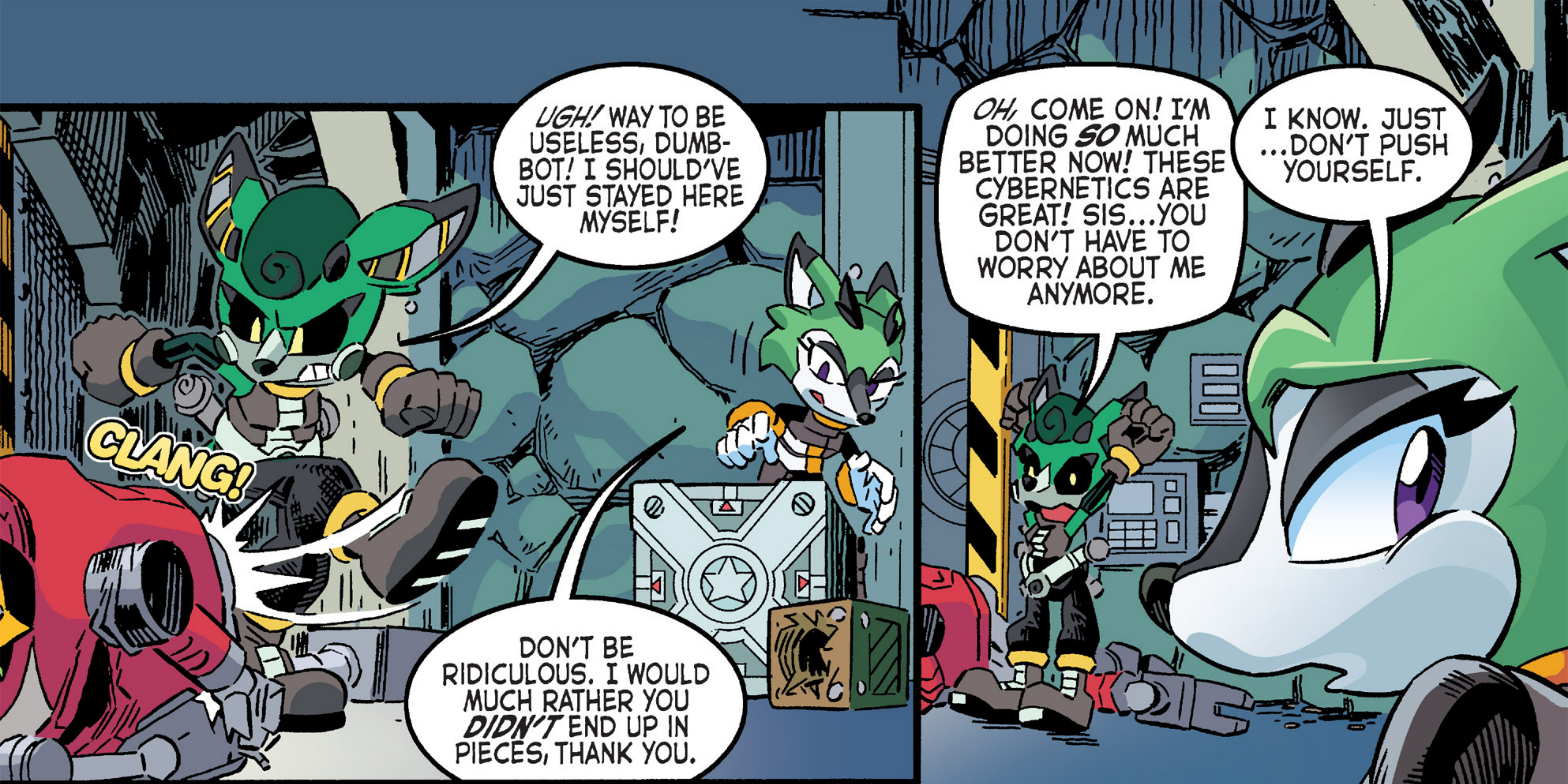
SCRIPT:
**ALEAH
BAKER**

PENCILS:
**EVAN
STANLEY**

INKS:
**TERRY
AUSTIN**

COLORS:
**GABRIEL
CASSATA**

LETTERS:
**JOHN
WORKMAN**



SHORTLY, ABOARD
THE DEATH EGG...

...AND
JUDGING FROM
SOME OF THEIR ATTIRE,
WE'VE DETERMINED THAT
THE THIEVES ARE
LIKELY FROM--

MOBOTROPOLIS.

DO YOU THINK I
DON'T KNOW THE
OBNOXIOUS FACE OF
MILES PROWER WHEN
I SEE IT?

I...OF
COURSE,
SIR.

SO WHAT THIS ALL
COMES DOWN TO
IS...YOU *HAD* THE
CHAOS EMERALD
WITHIN REACH, AND
YOU *LOST* IT.

TO *THE*
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS.

DR. EGGMAN
MAD TYRANT

WELL, MAYBE IF
YOU'D SENT US THE
RIGHT EQUIPMENT
THE *FIRST* TIME...

HUSH.

SIR, WITH ALL
DUE RESPECT, WHILE
WE WERE UNABLE TO
PROCEED WITH THE
EXCAVATION, THE
MINE'S LOCATION
WAS KEPT SECRET.

I DON'T WISH TO
MAKE EXCUSES FOR
MYSELF. HOWEVER,
UNLESS THERE WAS
SOME BREACH IN
SECURITY--*

*STH #255 AND
#256. --EDITOR

YES, FINE, WHATEVER.
FORGET THAT WORTH-
LESS HOLE IN THE
GROUND. YOU'RE BEING
REASSIGNED. STAND BY
FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

...AS YOU
WISH, SIR.

ORBOT!
CUBOT!

PULL UP THE FILES
FOR MY RESOURCE
ACQUISITION
PROJECT.

OH! TO FIND ANOTHER
CHAOS EMERALD? I
GUESS YOU NEED TO
LOOK SOMEWHERE
ELSE SINCE THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
TOOK THIS ONE, HUH?

PHAGE
Track'ingU

YES. YES, THEY DID.
AND *HOW* DID THEY
KNOW TO LOOK THERE?

...CRYSTAL
BALL?

IMPECCABLE
DOWSING
SKILLS?

* SEE ISSUE #255.

NOT ONLY DID THEY
USE *MY* RESOURCES
AGAINST ME, THEY
TOOK *MY* CHAOS
EMERALD RIGHT OUT
FROM UNDER MY
NOSE!

WELL..
AT LEAST
YOU KNOW *WHERE*
THE EMERALD IS.
SHALL WE MOUNT
AN ATTACK TO
RECLAIM
IT?

BAH! I CAN TAKE IT
BACK AT ANY TIME!
AND IF THEY THINK
THEY CAN USE *MY*
DATA TO FIND ANY
OTHERS...

HMMM...

...SIR?

BECAUSE WHILE I WAS STUCK
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS
BROKEN PIÑATA OF A PLANET,
THAT POMPOUS PRINCESS
SNUCK ABOARD THE DEATH
EGG AND *STOLE MY FILES!**

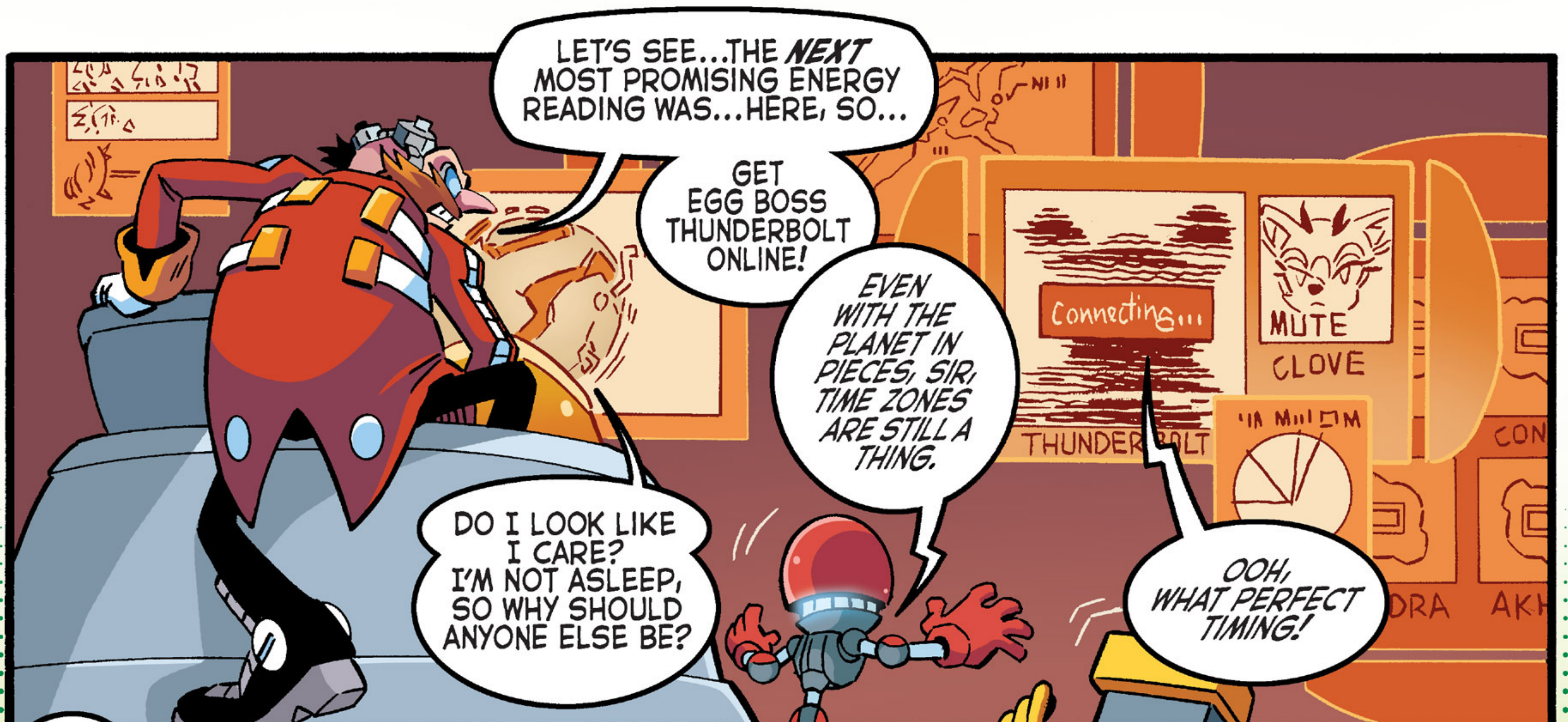
WHEN I TOLD YOU TO
BRING UP THOSE FILES,
DID YOU THINK I MEANT
YESTERDAY?

...ER... IS THAT AN
ACTUAL QUESTION,
OR A RHETORICAL
ONE?

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

...ARE
YOU ACTUALLY
ASKING FOR OUR
OPINION, OR IS
THAT ALSO A
RHETORI--

GET TO
WORK!



LET'S SEE...THE *NEXT* MOST PROMISING ENERGY READING WAS...HERE, SO...

GET EGG BOSS THUNDERBOLT ONLINE!

EVEN WITH THE PLANET IN PIECES, SIR, TIME ZONES ARE STILL A THING.

DO I LOOK LIKE I CARE? I'M NOT ASLEEP, SO WHY SHOULD ANYONE ELSE BE?

OOH, WHAT PERFECT TIMING!



...OH?

I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CALL YOU! WE'VE GOT A CONFIRMED CHAOS EMERALD BEING RECOVERED AS WE SPEAK. I'LL HAVE IT ON ITS WAY TO YOU IN A MATTER OF HOURS!

REALLY, NOW!



KEEP IT THERE.

ERM... BEG YOUR PARDON?

DON'T GET ANY IDEAS. I'M NOT SAYING IT'S YOURS TO KEEP. OBVIOUSLY, I'M SURE YOU KNOW BETTER TO *THINK* OF DOING SUCH A THING.



BUT I'M AFRAID THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE WHO NEEDS TO LEARN THE CONSEQUENCES OF TRYING TO GO BEHIND MY BACK...OF TRYING TO BE JUST A LITTLE TOO CLEVER...AND THAT CHAOS EMERALD WILL PROVIDE THE PERFECT BAIT.

OOH, DOCTOR EGGMAN...

...I *DO* SO LIKE THE WAY YOU THINK!

oh...
SO
not
the
end!





SONIC-GRAMS

FAN ART



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from New York



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Barrington R.
from Pennsylvania



Sabrina F. sent to
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HEY, KIDS!

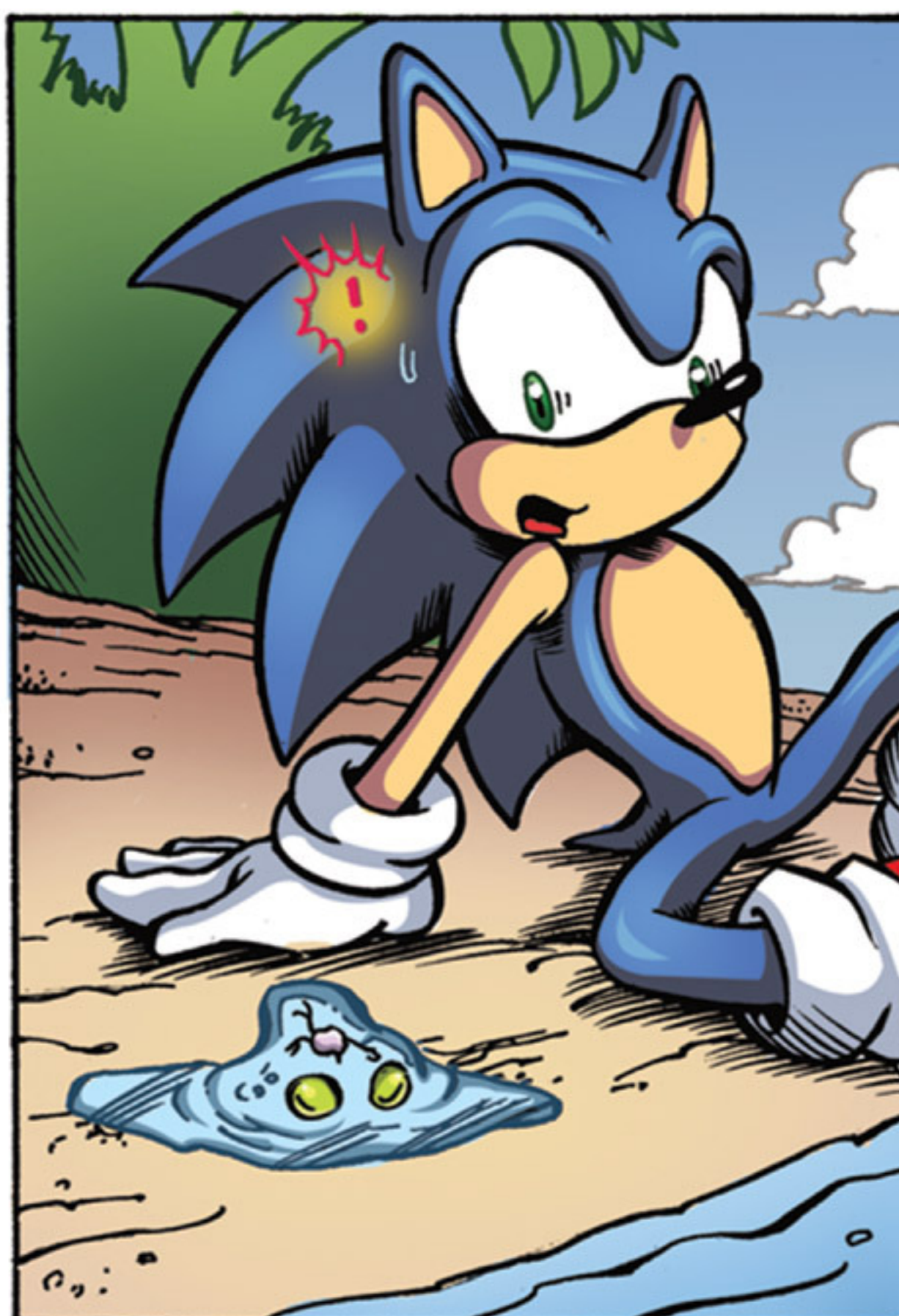
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P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419
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OFF PANEL

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SONIC-GRAMS

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P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

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Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Hello guys, back again with the usual.

Talk about getting right to the point! And here I thought Sonic was the fastest!

HEY! I heard that!

Firstly, will we see more of this underwater culture after the Waves of Change story is over? I really want to see more of these characters!

This definitely will not be last you see of Razor, Coral, Pearly and the rest of the Meropis crew!

Secondly, what is the next Sonic game you want to adapt after Sonic Unleashed?

Personally, I would love to explore the characters and settings of "Lost World," but we still have much to cover with the shattered world crisis. One game at a time, right?

Finally, what do you guys think of Sonic Boom so far?

Samuel sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for writing in, Samuel! We are super duper pumped for Sonic Boom and can't wait to dive into the Boomiverse! Paul and I have even wrapped our arms with sports tape in anticipation of the awesomeness!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
I couldn't have picked a better time to subscribe to the Sonic the Hedgehog comics than now with the Sonic Unleashed story arc! I'm a bit of a fangirl when it comes to the Werehog, (or any Sonic form, really, but who doesn't love the fluff?) so I'm especially looking forward to the upcoming comics!

Glad to hear you're aboard our radical train! The fluff is awesome and so are you!

I'll be checking my mailbox frequently!

Okay! Just be careful if you check it after sunset, the Dark Gaia monsters may be on the prowl!

I've always loved the comics for giving Sonic a backstory and life outside of the games. I'll keep reading as long as they keep being published! Keep up the great work!

Corinne S. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks, Corinne! It's fans like you that give us the support we need to keep making the comics. As long as there are Sonic comic fans there will always be Sonic comics!

See y'all next month for the first of an epic two-part story, "Control"!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #263



CHAO VARIANT BY
EVAN STANLEY

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COMING SOON!

SONIC UNIVERSE

ISSUE 67



PIXEL CUTSCENE VARIANT BY
RYAN JAMPOLE

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IT'S AN ALL-OUT
**GRUDGE
MATCH!**

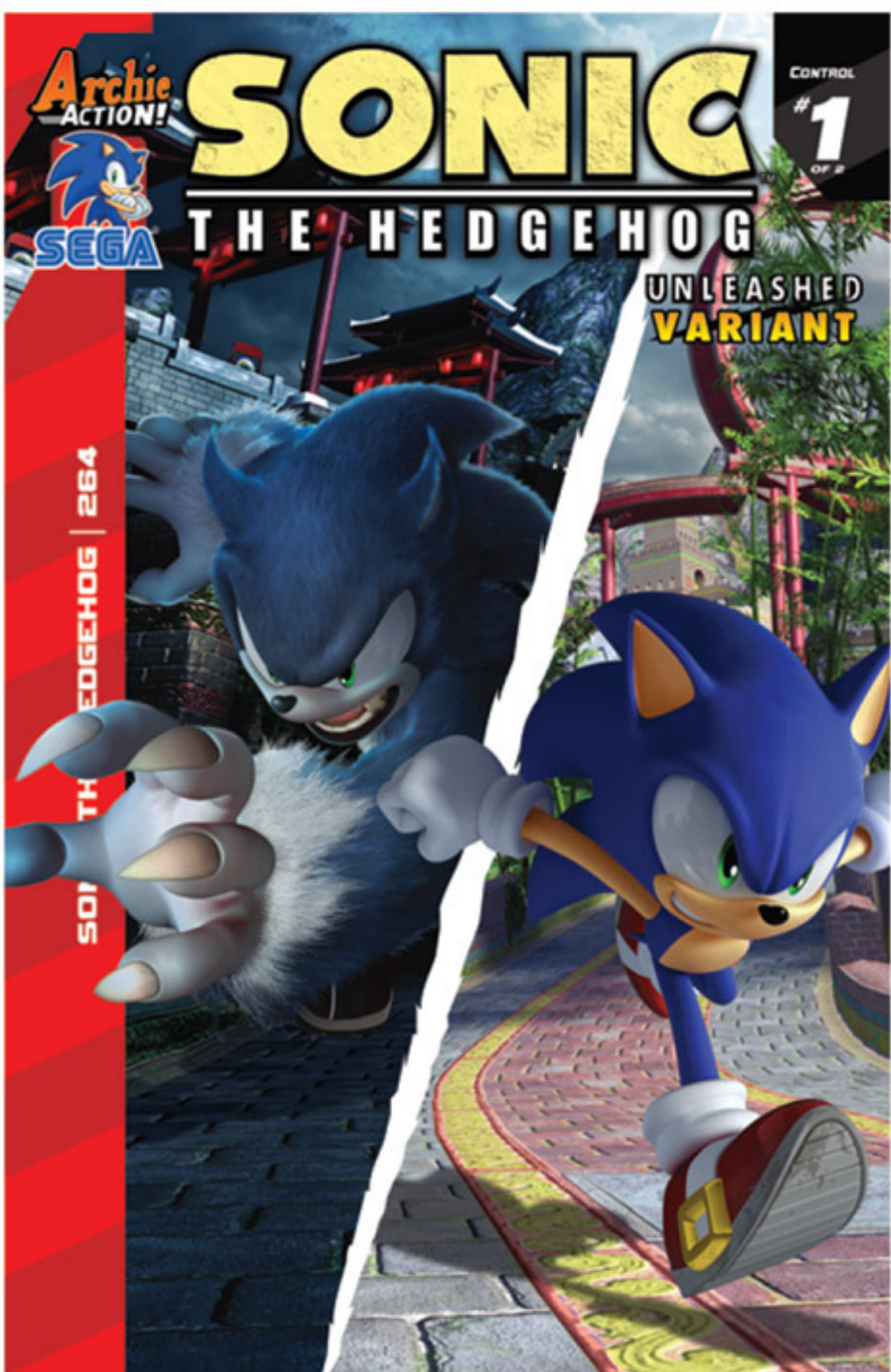
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